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# Daily Report

# Central Eurasia

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# Daily Report
## Central Eurasia

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## U.S. Eager To Show Off Russia as its 'Sole Success Story'

*MK2710101593 Moscow MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS in Russian 27 Oct 93 p 3*

[Sergey Gulyy commentary in the "Analysis and Forecast" column under "Visit of the Week" rubric: "Love Through Misunderstanding. Russian Freedoms Have Been Bought by America at Cost"]

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, who visited Moscow at the end of last week, rounded up his speech before the "new generation of Russian democrats" in Aganbegyan's National Economics Academy by mentioning Tyutchev's "common arshin" [yardstick] and "unique stature" [reference to the line: "The mind is unable to fathom Russia, a common arshin cannot measure her: she has a stature of her own...."].

The talks, in which Yeltsin, Chernomyrdin, Gaydar and Christopher's counterpart took part, "have exceeded all expectations" according to Christopher. True, not much was apparently expected from the Russians: Their firm assurances about the fairness of the December elections and freedom of the press were quite enough. At a time when the failures of U.S. foreign policy have become commonplace (Somalia, Bosnia, and Haiti are only the most shining examples), when Christopher himself is being called upon to leave in good time, and when the administration has only the Moscow direction to cite as its sole success story, the real task of the visit was to confirm this "success" and show to the skeptics that they were not mistaken, that "our Russian friends" are indeed democrats and are leading the country where Washington wants it to go and that they will win.

Not being fools, the Russian friends readily confirmed everything the adherents of freedom from across the ocean were asking for. Especially given that the latter clearly understood that confidence must be paid for. Did the Congress meet the administration's request for 2.5 billion for "technical and humanitarian aid?" It did. Will it lift the discriminatory trade barriers before the end of the year? We will certainly try. Have Moscow's fears about new members being admitted to NATO been allayed? Apparently so.

A common transaction, even though its subject is such a delicate commodity as the genuineness of democracy. Moscow sought and received unequivocal support from U.S. officialdom (i.e. from the West) directly on the field on the recent battles. It was important for Washington to obtain the results of a sobriety test, and get them it did.

Mundaneness and cynicism do not frighten away even the aesthetes flying around in the ether of pure democracy. The U.S. legalists [zakonniki], mentors and proponents of this supreme value cannot cover their interest-free support of Yeltsin with anything more clever than a choice in the vulgar dilemma—the "battle between reaction (legitimate Khasbulatov and Rutskoy) and the advocates of the reforms (the also legitimate Yeltsin)." They choose the illegally installed Shevardnadze (he will lead Georgia down the right path) versus the semi-crazy although perfectly legitimate Gamsakhurdia. They choose a fairly legitimate although semi-crazy president of Haiti versus a self-styled military junta.

The mundaneness of the deal does not at all preclude its usefulness and advantage for both sides. It is silly to reject what is coming directly into one's hands. Could Moscow have so easily obtained concessions from the West on the most fundamental question of its security—the admission of new members to NATO—under other circumstances? Now within the framework of the new "peace partnership" it has received rights absolutely equal with the main aspirants—Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic—to take part in the bloc's activities without being a full-fledged member. Any change in the status of the newly associated members will effectively occur after approval by the Kremlin. President Clinton, who is going to Moscow in January—right after a NATO summit—will hardly venture to bring Yeltsin bad news.

For the sake of an overall rosy picture the numerous and serious contradictions in U.S.-Russian relations (how quickly to pull out troops from the Baltic states; whether Moscow should support new sanctions against Libya—then the money lent to it would be gone forever, while at the same time we are not against maintaining troops in the neighboring states under the guise of peacekeepers at U.S. or at least UN expense; and so forth) were not aired publicly.

For the sake of show of unity the really common interests were stressed: nonproliferation of mass annihilation weapons, fighting terrorism, and cessation of nuclear tests. Christopher promised to shake the intransigent Ukraine, which, even on the verge of an economic abyss, stubbornly refuses to part with the remnants of Soviet missiles. This is at least something one should be thankful for.

## Columnist Perceives No Change in U.S. Nuclear Strategy

*PM2810101593 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 28 Oct 93 p 3*

[Manki Ponomarev article: "U.S. Nuclear Strategy Still Remains the Same"]

[Text] When the United States made public its new program for military organizational development around two months ago, immediately dubbed by the mass media the "Clinton doctrine," analysts straightaway noticed something fairly strange. The general tasks facing the Armed Forces and their future structure were set out extremely thoroughly and in great detail in this document, but the strategic nuclear forces—the basis of U.S. military might—and Washington's nuclear strategy were mentioned in passing, in very general terms.

The explanation for this has only now emerged. It turns out that the United States is only just embarking on an all-embracing review of this strategy. A Department of Defense spokesman said recently that the aim of this review is to assess from scratch the quantity, categories, and targets of all nuclear weapons remaining in the U.S. arsenal in order to formulate a "new national policy" in the nuclear sphere. As a result, a long-term structure for the U.S. nuclear forces should be formulated and it should be stipulated how many warheads [boyezaryady] there should be on each of the three components of the strategic "triad"—ICBM's and ballistic missiles on nuclear submarines and heavy bombers. This will determine the overall level of nuclear arms which Washington must strive to maintain at probable new arms reduction talks with the other nuclear powers.

The results of this review and the conclusions drawn from it are to be approved by President Bill Clinton and set out in a special "Directive on Policy Review," which has already been assigned the number 34.

But that is for the future. At the moment the United States has around 8,000 deployed nuclear warheads, and the trickiest thing is that, despite the recent radical changes in the world, Washington's strategy and all the practical planning for the possible use of nuclear weapons are still officially determined by "National Security Directive No. 13" signed back in 1981 by Ronald Reagan. The very directive which unequivocally authorized the United States to be the first to use nuclear weapons and geared military organizational development to preparing and waging global nuclear-missile war. It was this directive that was the basis of the "Single Integrated Strategic Plan" SIOP-5P, which envisaged various options for attacks on highly important military and economic installations, as well as political, state, and military command posts in the USSR and other Warsaw Pact countries, and included 40,000 potential targets of nuclear attack.

The USSR and the Warsaw Pact have not existed for several years now, but the nuclear plans have stayed the same. That is why, THE NEW YORK TIMES wrote, U.S. missiles are still targeted on the former Soviet republics and officers of the Strategic Command rehearse their "actions in the event of nuclear attack" 10 times a day. That is why the United States is expanding the scale of its nuclear missile-armed submarines' combat patrols.

U.S. military expert William Arkin rightly remarked: "All our actions only perpetuate the long-standing nuclear arms race." And today there is no reason or justification for it.

## U.S. Nonfulfillment of Space Market Agreements Noted

*PM2710160793 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Oct 93 p 3*

[Article by Gennadiy Khromov: "We Should Not Lose Out"]

[Text] Last month Russian head of government Viktor Chernomyrdin and U.S. Vice President Albert Gore signed a package of agreements on problems of space activity and the nonproliferation of missiles and missile technologies. This package includes the "agreement between the Russian Federation Government and U.S. Government on international trade in the field of commercial services for space launches."

Many people in our country believed that although these documents contain a number of discriminatory clauses nonetheless they would immediately open up for us access to the international market and give the opportunity to earn money using the colossal potential of our space industry. For this Russia even set about revising its contract with India for cryogenic engines, but what has happened?

Washington promised to repeal the discriminatory restrictions in trade, including in connection with the COCOM [Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls] rules (the U.S. Administration itself has 60 legislative acts which should be regarded as discriminatory with regard to Russia), but it looks as though these promises may remain no more than promises.

There was also mention of an enormous volume of work on the "Freedom" manned station. The day before the agreements were signed the NASA leadership even discussed with our designers specific plans for the participation of Russian organizations in the creation of this space station, but the NASA leaders have gone against their conscience, to put it mildly.

After all, "Freedom" is not so much an American as an international station. The financing of its creation over several years has been not only at the expense of the United States but also of Japan, Canada, and a number of European countries (the U.S. partners are paying one quarter of all expenses). Yet all the promises which were given at NASA were not even examined with any of the United States' partners. They are actively protesting the participation of Russian organizations in the project, fearing for their own share and believing that a "linkup" with Russia under the conditions of its inherent political instability could lead to the death of the "Freedom" station project as a whole. And the U.S. Senate has not yet agreed to the continuation of work on the space station with Russia's participation.

And, finally, about our emergence onto the commercial market for space services. The agreement on this subject came into force at the moment it was signed, that is back 2 September. But to judge by reports which have filtered through to the press the U.S. State Department is still holding back the issue of licenses to U.S. companies for the launching of satellites by Russian launch vehicles, artificially linking this question with problems of the export of rocket equipment and technology. This position on the part of the State Department could influence the duration and even the actual possibility of the full implementation of the contracts prepared and agreed. After all, the market is the market: Here if one partner is unable to ensure work within the set deadline they turn to another! The press reports that it is a case of contracts for the launch of the "Inmarsat" satellite using a Russian "Proton" rocket and five satellites of the Californian "Loral" company, and this company was already prepared to pay several million dollars in advance.

Those are the facts, and they attest that ultimately our country could lose out.

## Kozyrev Ends Official Visit to UK

*LD2710172293 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1654 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Natalya Kirsanova, Nikolay Pakhomov, and Viktor Khrekov]

[Text] London October 27 TASS—A two-day official visit of Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev to Great Britain has been completed.

He met with Prime Minister John Major, held talks with Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Douglas Hurd and Chancellor of the Exchequer Kenneth Clarke, attended a meeting of the House of Commons, delivered a speech at the Royal Institute of International Affairs. In his speech the Russian foreign minister set forth priorities of the Russian foreign policy in Europe and the whole world.

Andrey Kozyrev told correspondents he highly assessed the talks where a wide range of international and bilateral issues had been discussed. The British side was informed of the current political situation in Russia.

During Andrey Kozyrev's stay in London a meeting took place between the Russian foreign minister and United Nations Secretary General Butrus Butrus Ghali, who had arrived here. The two sides considered the issue of the Yugoslavia settlement.

On Wednesday, the Russian foreign minister flew home. En route he made a stop-over in Scotland and participated in the official ceremony of inauguration of Russia's consulate-general in Edinburgh.

### Attends Inauguration of Consulate in Scotland

*LD2710235893 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2000 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] The Russian Consulate in Scotland was officially opened today by Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev who flew in from London specially, having extended his visit to the British Isles by one day. His speech at the ceremony, as it were, summed up the results of the latest Russian diplomatic visits to the countries of Europe, and the main result, in Kozyrev's view, is that despite the colossal problems inside our country, Russia remains a great power, playing first fiddle in resolving European problems:

[Begin Kozyrev recording] We are now dismantling with difficulty the mechanisms that held the Soviet Union in this iron cage and did not let it out because people were afraid of it and did not respect it. Russia is now more respected. [end recording]

Nevertheless, we have learned that the British side, for the time being, regards a visit by Her Highness Elizabeth II as premature. In November, however, Princess Diana intends to visit us, and John Major intends to pay an official visit in January.

### Returns From Visit

*LD2810023793 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0120 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent]

[Text] Moscow, 28 Oct—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev returned to Moscow early this morning. The head of the Russian foreign policy department paid an official visit to Ireland and Great Britain.

## Shokhin Says Russia-EC Treaty 'Close'

*LD2710175693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1602 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Igor Galkin]

[Text] Moscow October 27 TASS—"We are close to the development of a treaty which will provide a basis for long-term and new cooperation between Russia and the European Communities," Russian Vice-Prime Minister Aleksandr Shokhin said.

Speaking at a news conference in Moscow on Wednesday [27 October] devoted to his talks with EC Conference Vice-President Leon Brittan in Brussels on October 25, Shokhin said that the talks aimed at thrashing out disagreements over the agreement on cooperation which would allow the EC Commission to recommend the EC Council to approve a new mandate for talks with Russia at its session on November 8.

Shokhin said that both sides have reached an understanding on several sections of the agreement, including on trade in goods and services, the establishment and activity of companies, flow of the capital and current payments, economic cooperation.

He said the EC will recognise Russia as a country with a transitional economy and will no longer consider it as a country with a state system of trade. This means nondiscriminatory cooperation with Russia in various spheres, Shokhin said. At the same time, he admitted that some problems have yet to be resolved, including terms on which Russia could be granted certain privileges.

The talks will continue on November 11 when EC Commission President Jacques Delors will arrive in Moscow.

Speaking about talks in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan about the establishment of a single currency system in six CIS countries, the vice-premier said that all sides concerned—Russia, Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan—are currently working to iron out discrepancies in their legislations. The Russian government's position is that first of all key questions should be agreed and the republics should provide Russia with guarantees that they are willing to take such a step. Money supply is of a secondary nature, Shokhin said.

He described as undesirable some republics' intentions to introduce temporary currencies for the transitional period.

### Details of Nuclear Waste Dumping in Sea of Japan

*PM2710135193 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1100 GMT 22 Oct 93*

[By G. Shakhov; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Russia's Prime Minister Chernomyrdin has ordered a halt to discharges of liquid radioactive waste in the Sea of Japan. It would seem that the incident is now over, but unfortunately, the problem has not been resolved, nor is it likely to be resolved in the near future. The point is that as a result of arms cuts and for technical reasons, the Russian Navy is continually decommissioning nuclear submarines. According to Russian Defense Ministry information, 93 such vessels had been taken out of service as of 21 May 1993, but radioactive fuel has been unloaded from only 30 of them. The other submarines have been mothballed. Radioactive material cannot be unloaded from such tombs. The unloaded materials are being dumped at sea because we do not have the technology to convert liquid waste into solid waste. This is why more than 300,000 cubic meters of liquid waste were dumped at sea between 1974 and 1992. In one part of the Sea of Japan alone there already are 1,689 containers with radioactive contents, 18 ships with nuclear reactors, and 26 assemblies which have been removed from nuclear submarines. Judging by appearances, a Chernobyl-type explosion could, in time, occur also on the bed of the world ocean.

### Japanese Officials Begin Talks on Dumping

*OW2710131593 Tokyo KYODO in English 1251 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Moscow, Oct. 27 KYODO—Japanese and Russian Government officials began a two-day meeting Wednesday [27 October] in Moscow to discuss the Russian Navy's dumping of liquefied radioactive waste in the Sea of Japan.

Russians are expected to call for financial and technical assistance to help the country dispose of its nuclear waste, Japanese officials said.

Japan is urging Russia to utilize a 100 million dollar fund Tokyo has pledged to Moscow to help scrap its obsolete nuclear weapons, they said.

The Russian Navy on October 16 and 17 dumped 900 tons of liquefied nuclear waste in the Sea of Japan. But it canceled a planned second dumping following protests from Japan and South Korea.

The officials will meet in the Russian Far East city of Vladivostok on Friday and Saturday to discuss a bilateral joint survey on environmental effects of the dumping.

### Atomic Energy Minister in Tokyo for Takls

*AU2710173493 Paris AFP in English 1715 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct 27 (AFP)—Russian Atomic Energy Minister V.N. Mikhaylov urged Japan's nuclear power industry Wednesday [27 October] to help Russia with its nuclear power development program, particularly in Eastern Siberia.

"We would like to solicit your commercial-base cooperation," he told a private seminar with mostly Japanese power industry officials.

Mikhailov said Russia planned to build more nuclear power plants in Eastern Siberia to help alleviate a looming energy shortage in the region but it faced a shortage of funds to maintain its existing plants and build more.

He said Russia was spending 150 million dollars annually to upgrade its nuclear power plants and improve their safety but that a comprehensive overhaul of these plants would require up to 300 million dollars annually.

Meanwhile, a Russian nuclear expert said Russia will not scrap nuclear reactors of the same type as the one at Chernobyl which caused a massive nuclear accident in 1986, according to the KYODO news agency.

Armen Abagian, director general of the Moscow-based Research Institute of the Nuclear Power Plant Operations Scientific and Industrial Association, told a symposium here that recent international inspection missions had concluded that safety levels at these reactors were "acceptable," according to KYODO.

### Asks for Help in Nuclear Safety

*LD2710220893 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1148 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Varlamov]

[Text] Tokyo, 27 Oct— Viktor Mikhaylov, Russian Federation Minister for Atomic Energy, has called on Japanese power engineering circles to assist Russia in constructing and ensuring the safety of the exploitation of nuclear power stations. Addressing a symposium on the safety of nuclear power stations on the territory of the former USSR and Eastern Europe which was held in

Tokyo today, he said Russia intends to actively build nuclear power stations, especially in eastern Siberia, and plans to double the total output of electricity by the year 2010.

Welcoming a representative audience of about 230 managers of nuclear power engineering in Japan, the Russian minister said Moscow is ready for a mutually advantageous commercial cooperation in this field. Every year the Russian Federation allocates up to $150 million on improving nuclear power stations and increasing their safety; however, this sum is not enough since, according to moderate calculations, no less than $250-300 million should be invested every year so that the situation in power engineering can be radically improved.

Armen Abagyan, general director of the All-Russian Scientific Research Institute of Nuclear Power Stations, who then made a report on the safety of nuclear power plants, said Russia is not planning to close down power stations with reactors similar to that which caused the Chernobyl tragedy. After the accident all the reactors of the "Chernobyl type" were modified and their safety enhanced, Abagyan said, adding that the exploitation of these power plants will continue until their working life has expired. Their safety level is adequate, as was recently confirmed by an authoritative international commission which made an inspection of the site.

At the same time Morris Rosen, deputy assistant to the IAEA director general, noted in his speech that there is opposition in some countries, and primarily European countries, to Russia and former socialist countries continuing to use nuclear power stations similar to the Chernobyl plant. Rosen noted that what has given rise to this mood is more political than scientific but, in principle, if an accident of this scale is repeated at one of the reactors installed there, that could seriously undermine confidence in nuclear power engineering in general.

## Chinese Beaten, Robbed During Moscow Turmoil

*OW2810034093 Moscow Radio Moscow in Mandarin 1000 GMT 23 Oct 93*

[From the "Entrepreneurs Club" program]

[Text] Radio Moscow listeners currently residing in Moscow may have heard about the encounters of some Chinese citizens there. By the way, data from the General Bureau of Moscow's Interior Ministry shows that currently there are about 50,000 Chinese citizens in Moscow, some of which are unlawful residents engaged in illegal trade. From 3-18 October, when Moscow was under both a curfew and a state of emergency, law enforcement authorities carried out massive searches of the city and conducted arrests in a bid to screen various criminals. Some Chinese citizens also drew the attention of the police authorities. On 13 October, police searched a building owned by (Jite), a Russian-Chinese joint-venture on Moscow's (Puleshiyev) Street. Among others, this company also made use of buildings it had rented to house Chinese citizens. When news of the search reached us through this broadcast, some Chinese citizens called Radio Moscow's editorial department, expressing their anger over the police's action. They asked whether it signified the beginning of an anti-Chinese campaign in Russia. Of course as journalists we felt a bit panicked. To find out what actually happened on (Puleshiyev) Street, we contacted the relevant departments. First, we called the Chinese Embassy in Russia, requesting to speak to the consul, who was not in at the moment. We failed to reach the Chinese Consul again the following day. After the (Jite) Russian-Chinese joint-venture was searched a second time, we subsequently managed to obtain the truth about the incident from (Yegelov), first deputy minister of the Russian Interior Ministry and a lieutenant general in the civilian police. Lieutenant General (Yegelov) told our reporter:

[(Yegelov), in Russian fading into Mandarin translation] There was no specific action against Chinese citizens in Moscow; all actions were directed at violators of the law with no linkage to nationality or citizenship. The two operations mounted against the building rented by the Russian-Chinese joint-venture resulted in the detention of 160 Chinese citizens, of which investigations showed 131 were illegal residents. Documents are currently being prepared to have them expelled.

The first deputy minister continued: It should be emphasized our action also has something to do with requests made by the PRC Public Security Department. For example, a detained Chinese criminal was also a wanted criminal in China; China has sought our help for his arrest. All detained Chinese citizens were immediately released upon documentary proof they are legal residents in Russia. I would like to reiterate, actions taken by civilian police during the state of emergency were not directed against any particular nationality and were not politically motivated. Our mission was to expose and arrest criminals. In other words, we acted like the criminal police force of any other country.

In a 15 October program highlighting life in China and cooperation between China and CIS nations, Russia's Light Tower Radio Station carried a talk given by First Deputy Minister (Yegelov) of the Russian Interior Ministry. The Chinese Embassy in Russia responded to the broadcast. Wang Xialing, the Chinese Embassy attache and consul requested station reporter Mashenko go over to the Chinese Embassy for talks. During the talks, the consul referred to certain details of the search conducted by the police in the Russian-Chinese joint venture. He said 40 policemen with automatic weapons took part in the first search on 10 October. While inspecting documents, these policemen assaulted and robbed Chinese citizens in the building. They opened cabinets, suitcases, wallets, and personal effects of the Chinese citizens; confiscated large amounts of money; and caused serious damage to the properties of (Jite). Consul Wang Xialing continued: 64 Chinese citizens were assaulted, among the eight injured, three were hospitalized upon doctors' recommendation. Moreover, all these incidents took place in the absence of any resistance by the Chinese citizens against the action. Consul Wang added: The Chinese Embassy in Russia takes a serious view of this incident, viewing it as an unlawful armed robbery of Chinese citizens in Russia and a crude infringement of their rights.

In a note explaining the Chinese stand to the Russian Foreign Ministry, the Chinese Embassy demanded an investigation of the incident and severe punishment of those involved. The Chinese Embassy also demanded the return of Chinese citizens' belongings confiscated by the Russian police and compensation for damages done to the Chinese company.

Consul Wang Xialing continued: The Embassy has always taught Chinese citizens to abide by Russian laws and regulations. The Chinese Government is keenly aware of a handful of Chinese citizens who commit crimes in Russia and has actively sought cooperation with the relevant Russian departments in bringing them to justice. One of the criminals arrested at the (Jite) Company on the evening of 13 October was a gang member whom China requested the Russian police arrest for crimes committed in China. In June and August of this year, the Chinese Public Security Department twice dispatched a special team to Moscow to work together with the Russian Interior Ministry. Through close coordination between the two sides, seven criminals were arrested. The embassy has also actively coordinated with the relevant departments in handling violations of residence registration in Russia by Chinese citizens. Nevertheless, neither Chinese nor Russian laws will allow assaults on or robbery of Chinese citizens because of residence registration violations. The embassy is willing to closely cooperate with the relevant Russian departments in properly solving these problems in accordance with the Russian laws and norms of international law so as to help preserve and develop friendly exchanges between the Russian and Chinese people.

The above are full accounts of the Russian and Chinese views on the incident in (Puleshiyev) Street, given respectively by the first deputy minister of the Russian Interior Ministry and the Chinese consul in Moscow. According to consul Wang Xialing, the action taken by the Russian civilian police was, to put it tactfully, very rough. However, we are not anxious to draw a conclusion. We will meet officials of the Russian Interior Ministry again to request their answer to several questions raised by China, and will report the findings to you in the Entrepreneurs Club program next week.

### Commentary Previews Visit by SRV Foreign Minister

*BK2710101193 Moscow Radio Moscow in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Commentary by Leonid Krichevskiy]

[Text] The upcoming official visit to the Russian Federation by SRV Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam is a significant event. It is the first visit to Russia by a Vietnamese foreign minister since the disintegration of the Soviet Union.

Several issues have emerged that need to be resolved by both countries. Russian-Vietnamese relations are now developing on the basis of mutual interests, free from any ideological influence. Noteworthy is that the fraternal and nonrefundable aid and assistance provided to Vietnam by the former Soviet Union no longer exists and that Vietnam is now in a position to trade and do business with other countries on an equal basis.

Before leaving Hanoi for a visit to the CIS countries, including Russia, Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam said: This visit is aimed at strengthening the traditional friendship between Vietnam and the CIS states. He said that recent changes in these states have not affected efforts to promote friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and the CIS. He expressed the hope that he will be able to hold talks with Russian leaders on measures to expand bilateral cooperation in the scientific-technological, economic, and trade domains. He said: I am confident that Moscow and Hanoi have a common wish to strengthen and promote cooperation in these fields. Both countries have maintained cooperation in such fields as energy and the exploration and exploitation of oil and gas along Vietnam's continental shelf. Moreover, there is great potential for joint ventures between the two nations in light industry, food processing, and the production of rubber and other merchandise.

Russia has also shown keen interest in exploring and exploiting mines in Vietnam, and this will be one of the key subjects to be discussed during the Vietnamese foreign minister's visit to Russia. Both sides will also discuss bilateral cooperation in developing joint enterprises and other production establishments.

It can be said that Russian-Vietnamese relations have suffered setbacks in various fields in the recent past. Since early 1993, however, these relations have been restored and efforts are being made to promote bilateral cooperation, especially through the Vietnamese foreign minister's upcoming visit to Russia.

### Belarus Signs Railroad Cooperation Pact

*WS2610135893 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 0800 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] In Moscow, Belarusian Minister of Transport Shkapich met with Russian Minister of Railways Fadeyev. A protocol on cooperation in the sphere of material and technical supply of Belarusian and Russian railroads and other important documents have been signed.

### Foreign Ministry Statement on Armenia, Azerbaijan

*LD2610225293 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1800 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Relations between Azerbaijan and Armenia have again deteriorated. The Russian Foreign Ministry today issued a statement. It noted that despite the insistent posing of the question by the Russian mediator, the sides were unable, or unwilling, to precisely define the line of contact, and had not discharged their obligations to send away any formations not under their control. A mechanism for communications between the sides, should violations occur, had not been perfected either.

In these circumstances, an offensive by the Karabakh Armenians had begun in southwestern areas of Azerbaijan, outside the territory of Nagorno-Karabakh. This meant further escalation of the conflict.

The Russian Foreign Ministry insistently urges the Karabakh armed formations to halt the offensive. The Armenian formations already control 40km of the Azerbaijani-Iranian border.

### Working Group Discusses Settling Tajik Conflict

*LD2710233293 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1627 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Moscow, 27 Oct (ITAR-TASS)—The questions of coordinating the efforts of Russian ministries and departments to fulfill the decisions of the Council of heads of the CIS countries connected with the Tajik settlement have been discussed at a meeting of the interdepartmental working group on Tajikistan. The meeting took place today in the Foreign Ministry of the Russian Federation chaired by Anatoliy Adamishin, first deputy minister of foreign affairs.

Participants in the meeting confirmed "the principle adherence of Russia to political measures of stabilizing the situation in Tajikistan" and underscored the importance of continuing thorough assistance to the Tajik Government in organizing the peace process.

### Commentary Views Iran's Stance on Tajik Opposition

*NC2710150093 Moscow Radio Moscow in Persian 1600 GMT 25 Oct 93*

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Iranian President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaking in the Turkmen capital, Ashgabat, refuted allegations about Iran's support for the Tajik opposition, which is carrying out military operations on the Tajik-Afghan border. In answer to a question about Iran's assistance, the Iranian president described all reports on this as rumors disseminated by the imperialist mass media. According to the Iranian president, Iran has a policy of nonintervention in the domestic affairs of other countries. Hashemi-Rafsanjani also said that Iran is exerting maximum efforts for a solution of the conflict in Tajikstan.

Existing facts show that this stance has been met with understanding by the officials he has visited during his trip to Central Asia. During a meeting in Tashkent, Uzbek President Karimov explicitly stated that Tajikstan's current officials should hold direct talks with Iran, Saudi Arabia, and Pakistan on the Tajikstan problem. We want to explain that this remark implies that Tajikstan's opposition is probably receiving assistance from these countries but that this assistance is being sent through nongovernmental circles.

Thus, when President Hashemi-Rafsanjani states that the Iranian Government does not support the Tajik guerrillas on the Afghan-Tajik border, I think that this completely complies with reality, but this does not mean that no assistance whatsoever is being extended to the Tajik opposition, especially when the political sentiments of highly influential sociopolitical circles in Iran are very clear. These sentiments are reflected in a series of newspapers that support this tendency. After all, it is no secret that the creation of a specific moral-political atmosphere for the Tajikstan conflict can create the right conditions for the extension of financial assistance by nongovernmental organizations and sources, for example.

Let us refer to another point. Observers have immediately pointed out that after his visits to Tashkent, Bishkek, and Ashgabat, the Iranian president will head for Almaty, but a visit to Dushanbe has not been included in his itinerary. I think that this clearly shows the existence of serious ideological and political differences between Tehran and the current officials in Dushanbe. However, one should not rule out the probability that if Dushanbe had taken the Uzbek president's advice and had started talks with Iran—if, of course, the Iranian side was prepared to hold talks—this would have at least helped solve the foreign aspects of the Tajikstan crisis.

### Ministry Denies Holding Talks With Iraqi Intelligence Chief

*PM2710163093 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 26 Oct 93 p 3*

[Sami 'Imarah report: "Russian Intelligence Denies Khasbulatov Received Money From Saddam"]

[Text] Moscow—In exclusive statements to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, Russian external intelligence sources have described as untrue the reports that the director of Iraqi intelligence discussed during his secret visit to Moscow the issue of Saddam Husayn's payment of $7 million to Ruslan Khasbulatov, former speaker of the Russian parliament.

Tatyana Samoylis, official spokeswoman for the director of Russian intelligence, said that the visit did indeed take place after 21 September, but before the 3-4 October incidents, namely the storming of the parliament. The two sides dealt with numerous issues which did not include the reports published by Iraqi opposition sources. Security Ministry sources have denied to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that talks were held between the director of Iraqi intelligence and any officials at the ministry. Meanwhile, Liberal Democratic

Party sources have said that a party delegation headed by Aleksandr Zobkov will visit Iraq tomorrow to discuss a number of mutual issues and to prepare for the visit by Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, the party's leader, which will take place at the end of the year—a confirmation of the rejection of the pro-American line, as the Liberal Party's statement put it.

## Denial Issued on Troops' Drug Trafficking in Germany

*LD2710230193 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1408 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksey Korinenko]

[Text] Berlin, 27 Oct—The press center of the Western Group of Forces [WGF] today spoke out against the groundless accusations spread recently by some FRG media. In a number of newspapers and in German TV reports, the WGF was accused of helping to bring drugs onto FRG territory.

These claims, according to an announcement from the WGF press center, completely unfounded, since FRG law-enforcement bodies have still not detained a single WGF serviceman on suspicion of drug trafficking. Nor have they applied to the military procuracy for help with investigating such cases. The possibility of moving drugs from Russia to Germany and also from Germany to Russia in Russian Air Force military transport planes is ruled out, since all the actual aircraft, as well as the passengers, undergo a compulsory customs inspection before takeoff, the press center announcement says.

## Economic Issues

### Yeltsin Signs Edict on Private Ownership of Land

*LD2710164593 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1600 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Moscow, 27 Oct (ITAR-TASS)—Today, Russian President Boris Yeltsin signed an edict "On the Regulation of Land Relationships and the Development of Agrarian Reform in Russia." This has been announced by the head of state's press service.

In accordance with the edict, the state guarantees the inviolability and protection of the private ownership of land, as well as protection of the rights of landowners when making land deals. Citizens and legal persons who are the owners of plots of land have the right to sell, bequeath, give, mortgage, lease, exchange, and also reassign a plot of land or a part of it as a contribution to the authorized capital of joint-stock companies, associations [tovarishchestva], and cooperatives, including those with foreign investment.

The obligatory supply and other forms of compulsory removal of agricultural produce for the benefit of state resources are being abolished from 1994.

The full text of the edict will be circulated by the president's press service tomorrow.

### Zaveryukha Supports Private Ownership

*LD2710160693 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1149 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Land must be really privatized if agriculture is to be made efficient, Russian Vice Premier Aleksander Zaveryukha declared on Wednesday [27 October] at an international conference on the problems of creating a common agrarian market on the territory of CIS and other states concerned.

Zaveryukha, who is in charge of agriculture in the cabinet, doubts that the transformation of collective and state farms into joint-stock ventures has put land into private hands in Russia. Although allotment owners are legally entitled to dispose of their plots of land as they please, "tough restrictions" on the sale, acquisition, inheritance and lease of land are still in effect, he stressed.

According to Zaveryukha, a presidential decree is to "remove these insurmountable obstacles." Boris Yeltsin plans to sign it within the next few days to regulate agricultural relations and promote the land reform in Russia. The decree, he remarked, is not an attempt "to do away with collective farms once and for all." On the contrary, it reiterates "the inalienable right of an owner to possess his land as he wants to" and all forms of land ownership, private and collective farms included, and envisages more government support for agriculture, Zaveryukha stressed.

As for an outbreak of land speculation, which, as some unqualified observers allege, may follow after the signing of the decree, such speculation is already well under way in Russia, and the cabinet "is determined to fight against it resolutely". The restrictions envisaged in the decree, the vice-premier believes, make it possible to "avoid such excesses in many ways."

### Minister Discusses Planned Reform

*LD2710144493 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1340 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[By BIZNESS-TASS correspondent Oleg Deyneko]

[Text] Moscow, 27 October—Russian President Boris Yeltsin is to sign a decree on land reform in the next few days. A BIZNESS-TASS correspondent learned this today from Russian Agriculture Minister Viktor Khlystun. The document envisages the "legalization" of private ownership of land, and it also legalizes buying, selling, and mortgaging land. In Viktor Khlystun's words, the main point of the document is the right of owners who obtain shares in land or property to dispose of these shares.

At the same time the decree does not envisage sales of agricultural land to those who have large amounts of money so that they can start production using hired labor or use the land for other purposes. A change in the way a plot of land is used can only be made in special cases with permission from the administration of the constituent part of the federation.

The decree does not allow foreigners to obtain land in private ownership. They can only obtain it on lease under certain conditions.

The minister said that town dwellers who decide to move permanently to rural areas will still have the right to obtain land. Each rayon is to have a land redistribution fund, which will be regularly updated.

At the same time, a number of conditions that have to be met if town dwellers are to obtain land remain in force. These include having appropriate diplomas in agriculture and having certain agricultural skills. "We shall take inventory of land on a regular basis, and in this procedure new funds may be allocated. If, for example, a person has received a plot of land but is not using it sensibly, we retain the right to confiscate the plot or to buy it out compulsorily, even from the owner. This land will be transferred to the redistribution fund, and can then be given to new owners," Viktor Khlystun said in conclusion.

## Yeltsin Signs Decree on Republic, Local Budgets

*LD2810094693 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0730 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Moscow, 28 Oct (ITAR-TASS)—Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin signed a decree "On Measures for the Observance of the Legislation of the Russian Federation on Budgetary Arrangements" on 27 October. The president's press service today released the full text of the Decree:

Taking into consideration the extraordinary financial situation that has evolved in the Russian Federation, the need to finance urgent federal expenditure from the funds of the republican budget of the Russian Federation for the year 1993, and in keeping with the decree of the president of the Russian Federation of 7 October 1993 No. 1598 "On the Legal Regulation in the Period of the Stage-by-Stage Reform in the Russian Federation," I resolve:

1. To grant the Council of Ministers—the government of the Russian Federation—in the period from 1 November 1993 to 31 January 1994 inclusive the right to take the following measures if the bodies of executive power of the republics forming part of the Russian Federation, krays, oblasts, autonomous oblasts, autonomous okrugs and the cities of Moscow and St. Petersburg do not observe the legislation of the Russian Federation on remitting to the republican budget of the Russian Federation sums of money from the federal taxes levied on their territories:

a. Suspend financing from the republican budget of the Russian Federation the enterprises, institutions, and organizations located on the corresponding territories until complete fulfilment of the obligations envisaged by the legislation of the Russian Federation on remitting to the republican budget of the Russian Federation sums of money from federal taxes levied;

b. To stop giving national-state and administrative-territorial entities the amounts necessary to carry out foreign economic activities until the obligations provided for in the legislation of the Russian Federation and concerning the payment into the Russian Federation republican budget of sums of money from the federal taxes levied in the relevant territories have been fully discharged;

c. Deliveries of centralized output from the state resources of the Russian Federation, including imported output, to the relevant national-state and administrative-territorial entities to be stopped;

d. The size of centralized state credits to be adjusted, with account being taken of the amounts of money which should have been transferred to the republican budget of the Russian Federation, but were not so transferred;

e. During the period between 1 November 1993 and 31 January 1994, the Central Bank of the Russian Federation, on the basis of a representation from the Council of Ministers—the government of the Russian Federation—concerning violations mentioned in point no. 1 of this Decree, is to deduct compulsorily the amounts due to have been paid into the republican budget of the Russian Federation in 1993 from the current accounts of the republican budgets of republics within the Russian Federation, kray, oblast, okrug budgets and the municipal budgets of Moscow and St. Petersburg.

3. The decree of the president of the Russian Federation "On Measures for the Observance of the Legislation of the Russian Federation on Budgetary Arrangements" will be examined by the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation.

4. This Decree comes into force upon publication.

## Yeltsin Issues Edict on Tax Amnesty

*LD2810113793 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0810 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Moscow, 28 Oct (ITAR-TASS)—on 27 October Russia's President Boris Yeltsin signed an edict "On Tax Amnesty in 1993." We issue the full text of the edict issued by the presidential press service.

"In order to augment the revenues of the 1993 Russian Federation republican budget, and to ensure that finances are available for a number of the most important and protected positions within the budget, in particular pensions, grants, state benefits, other social and compensation payments for the population, as well as for expenditure within the framework of the Fund for the Welfare Support of those residing in the north, and in keeping with edict No. 1598 issued on 7 October 1993 by the president of the Russian Federation, 'Concerning Legal Regulations During the Period of the Stage-by-Stage Constitutional Reform in the Russian Federation,' I resolve:

"1. That a tax amnesty be declared in the Russian Federation from the moment this edict is published and up to and including 30 November 1993.

"2. That enterprises, establishments, and organizations, as well as individuals engaging in business activities without having registered as legal persons, which until and including 30 November 1993 declare their unpaid taxes and tax payments for 1993 and preceding years, and which within the same period pay them into the republican budget of the Russian Federation in full, will be exempt from the sanctions provided for in the tax laws of the Russian Federation.

"3. If after 30 November 1993, it is found that enterprises, establishments, and organizations, as well as individuals engaging in business activities without having registered as legal persons, have retained revenues for tax evasion purposes, the bodies of the Russian Federation State Tax Service are to levy fines amounting to three times the size of fines envisaged in point number one of Article 13 of the Russian Federation Law, 'On the Foundations of a Tax System in the Russian Federation.'

"4. Banks and credit establishments irrespective of their organizational and legal forms and forms of ownership, are, from the moment of the promulgation of this edict and up to and including 31 January 1994, to present within three days, following enquiries from the Russian Federation State Tax Service and its territorial bodies, the necessary information concerning the accounts of enterprises, establishments, and organizations.

"In the event of a bank or a credit establishment refusing or evading its obligation to make the aforementioned information available, or in the event of inaccurate information being furnished, the Central Bank of the Russian Federation is, at the behest of the Russian Federation State Tax Service, within its rights to recall in keeping with the established procedure the licence to carry out banking operations, given to such banks or credit establishments.

"5. This edict is to be examined by the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation.

"6. This edict comes into force from the moment of its publication."

## Yeltsin Calls For Strengthened Social 'Safety Net'

*LD2710211293 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1947 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Moscow October 27 TASS—Taking into consideration the increasing prices for consumer goods and services, Russian President Boris Yeltsin issued on Wednesday [27 October] a decree strengthening the government's safety net of welfare payments to pensioners, the president's press office reported.

The decree provides for monthly compensations worth 11,700 roubles to those entitled for old-age pensions, disability pensions, pensions in the event of a loss of the bread-winner (for each non-abled bodied member of the family), long service pensions and social pensions granted under the law "on state pensions in the Russian Federation".

The pensioners living in the areas with rigorous climatic conditions, where hardship allowances are envisioned for workers and office employees, compensations for pensions are to be increased in proportion to the hardship allowance figure.

## Government Develops Social Policy

*PM2710142993 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Oct 93 First Edition p 2*

[Tatyana Khudyakova report: "Package of Documents on Radical Social Reform Being Prepared"]

[Text] It has been learned from well-informed sources in the government that work on the validation of the main principles of social policy in conditions of the economic reform is drawing to a close.

This work has been accelerated for two reasons: the forthcoming elections and the events of 3-4 October, which showed that the social base among the opposition to the reforms is very broad. After all, an enormous section of the country's population is below the poverty line. It is clear that people are hardly going to be content now with the diffuse populist promises of better times to come.

The government, it seems, is going to offer the people a Declaration which will clearly set out the main provisions of social policy. Not to the people in general but to each Russian individually, telling them what they should expect and what they can count on.

It is expected that the Declaration will not be just another "promissory" document—it will be backed up and given concrete form by a whole package of presidential edicts and government decrees relating to areas of social policy. The subsistence minimum, the subject of one of the documents which has been prepared, is to be taken as the basis for the financing of the social programs.

It is common knowledge that today the minimum wage is one-third and the minimum pension one-half of the subsistence minimum. There is nothing more the state can do at the moment. And the authors of the Declaration, according to information available, intend to say that honestly, and have defined the immediate aim: Minimum wages and pensions must be 50 percent of the subsistence minimum. The government's task is to reconcile those indicators.

Clearly something is going to be done in the immediate future. In particular, the system of grants in which the low-income grant could be the main element has been simplified. It is planned to issue this grant in response to individual applications from that one-third of the population which is languishing in poverty. This should not lead to an increase in budget appropriations for social programs but will make it possible to use them far more rationally.

To ensure a high level of effectiveness of social policy it is clearly necessary to reorganize the management of social questions vertically, with a coordinating organ at the center and a network of federal services to resolve various concrete problems, ranging from employment to the payment of pensions. It is proposed that at the regional level all the social services will be gathered together under one "roof" and people will not have to spend their time traipsing along the corridors of power.

The authors' intention is that these "social centers" should contain the maximum of open information—on pension provision, social work, grants, and employment.

The precise timing of the proclamation of the Declaration and the adoption of the entire package of social documents is not known at present, but from the available information one may assume that it will happen next week.

### Farm Subsidies Signal Inflation, Cabinet Split

*PM2710143193 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 26 Oct 93 p 1*

[Sergey Razin report: "'Black Hole' of AgroGULAG. The Agrarian Lobby Has Received Major Subsidies, Bypassing Gaydar"]

[Text] The government has again found itself on the verge of a split. A few days ago Chernomyrdin signed a directive under which 1.45 trillion rubles [R] were urgently allocated for subsidies to agriculture. Telegrams about the transfer of the money have gone around the regions so fast that the reformers who are championing a tough financial policy can change practically nothing.

What are the enormous resources needed for? The Ministry of Agriculture has received 650 billion for the purchase of vegetables and potatoes and for the processing of the harvest, although admittedly this credit was allocated with a full interest rate.

"Roskhlebprodukt," however, managed to lay its hands on R500 billion apparently needed for grain subsidies at super-preferential rates. Another 300 billion left the treasury without any interest rates at all—to pay off the old debts of the sovkhozes and kolkhozes [state and collective farms].

At least three important consequences follow from this financial demarche, undertaken on the initiative of Vice Premier Zaveryukha. First: The rumors about the imminent stabilization of the ruble are strongly exaggerated. Second: Chernomyrdin has put his money on the agrarian lobby and will almost certainly pursue an inflationary policy despite the intentions of Gaydar and Fedorov. Third: The split in the government has entered an open phase and may be compared to the president-parliament confrontation.

However, the latest subsidies for the agrarian leaders will not clear the political storm clouds now. Inflation will naturally be fueled up appreciably for a few more months. But the president's edict on private ownership of land, which is about to be signed, will put an end to the "AgroGULAG" and its insatiable financial appetite.

### Increases in Bread, Food Prices Noted

*PM2710153993 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 26 Oct 93 p 3*

[Report by Gennadiy Bortsov, staffer of Russian State Committee for Statistics: "Bread Is the Most Important Thing. More Important Than Inflation"]

[Text] The middle of this month was marked by a sharp increase in the price of bread and flour products. This rose by 24 percent on average throughout Russia just in the period 12 through 19 October.

The reason for this was the federal authorities' decision to release the price of bread and abolish subsidies to grain producers. The price of a kilogram of white bread made of top-grade flour in Russia has gone up on average from 206 to 233 rubles [R], grade-one and grade-two flour from R142 to R172, and rye and wheat flour from R104 to R127. However, bread and flour products did not go up in price everywhere. In many major cities, the price of mass-produced types of bread stayed at their previous level 12 through 19 October. At the same time, in a number of places they shot up by a factor of 1.5-3.

This has primarily also affected the overall index of foodstuff prices. The increase was 4.2 percent this week, that is, more than in any other week in the past month. Prices of meat and meat products increased by 1.6 percent, dairy products by 4 percent, groats and pasta products by 6.3 percent. Baby food has gone up significantly—the price of this has also been deregulated. Canned fruit for babies, for example, now costs R656 instead of R614.

The price of vegetables decreased slightly during the week—potatoes, cabbage, onions, beets, and carrots—but the price of garlic, apples, and oranges increased. One kilogram of potatoes now costs an average of R144, cabbage—R234, onions—R431, and carrots—R294. Apples cost the customer R596 per kg, with a price range of between R50 and R3,600 in different cities.

To take a regional cross section, the price of food has risen most in the Far East and West Siberian areas—by 7-7.4 percent; and least in the North Caucasus, Northwest, and Volga areas—by 2.4-2.7 percent.

The price of industrial consumer goods rose by 4.4 percent. The price of gasoline remains practically unchanged with the exception of three or four cities, where the increase was 15 percent. The fares on city buses and suburban electric trains remain unchanged. Bus tickets doubled in price in just four cities, including Moscow, while in eight cities, including Samara, Syzran, Saransk, and Krasnoyarsk, a suburban electric train journey has at least quadrupled. In Angarsk, the cost of one kilowatt hour of electricity for the population went up, while in other areas the rate was unchanged. In southern cities the rent for municipal housing remained relatively low, while in cities in the north of the country it was almost 400 times higher.

### Government Leaders To Meet With Industrialists

*PM2810105793 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 27 Oct 93 First Edition p 3*

[ITAR-TASS report: "Forum of Ministers and Industrialists"]

[Text] At an enlarged sitting held in Staraya Ploshchad yesterday, the Presidium of the Industrial Policy Council under the Russian Federation Government adopted a decision to support the proposal to hold an all-Russia meeting of the government and leaders of Federation components with Russian industrialists and entrepreneurs 1 November 1993 in Moscow.

Vladimir Velichko, president of the "Tenma" Joint-Stock Company, specified that the basic task of the upcoming meeting would be to analyze the economic situation in the country and prepare proposals for an economic program for Russia's development in 1993-1995. It is planned that questions concerning the upcoming parliamentary elections to the Federal Assembly will be broached at the meeting. The strength of regional organizations was determined at 10 people. In all, however, the forum will bring together around 1,000 people.

Oleg Soskovets, first deputy chairman of the Russian Federation Council of Ministers, noted that "the government program should be approved at the upcoming meeting." The industrialists' participation in adjusting the government program is vital, he added.

## Finance Ministry Seeks Changes in Central Bank

*LD2710215193 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2003 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] The Russian Finance Ministry has asked Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin to conduct a revision of the Central Bank of Russia (CBR) following numerous publications on the bank's scandalous activities. "This greatly damages the prestige of Russia," says an official statement of the ministry distributed this week.

The statement says CBR granted increased credits to the agro-industrial complex in July and August 1993 bypassing the Credit Commission. This led to an increase in the rate of inflation in the third quarter of this year, the ministry said.

In addition, the Finance Ministry called "misinformation" CBR leaders' references to the payment orders allegedly issued by the ministry to grant 600 million rubles in cash to the Supreme Soviet. The statement points out that the ministry had a document signed by the bank's chairman, Viktor Gerashchenko, informing the government of CBR's remittance of the 600 million rubles plus other large amounts of money to the Supreme Soviet on September 22nd. In addition, the ministry had documents proving the CBR granted large amounts of cash to the Supreme Soviet on September 24, 1993.

## Finance Ministry Sets Gold Certificate Price

*PM2810112193 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 28 Oct 93 First Edition p 3*

[Unattributed report: "Russian Ministry of Finances Has Set New Price for Sale of '1993 Gold Certificate'"]

[Text] The Russian Ministry of Finances has set for 27 October the price for the "1993 gold certificate" at the level of 141,525,100 rubles [R] while the price of the certificate on 26 October was R143,175,400.

The appearance of the "gold certificate" has generated enormous interest among Russian business circles, Bella Zlatkis, leader of the Russian Federation Ministry of Finances securities and financial market department, stated in an interview with BIZNES-TASS. Many enterprises and commercial structures are applying to acquire the certificate directly from the Ministry of Finances although the terms for its sale clearly state: "Gold certificates are sold by the Ministry of Finances through authorized banks."

Bella Zlatkis refused to name the number of banks with which the Ministry of Finances has concluded contracts of this kind or to list the biggest of them, calling this a commercial secret. But "the list of banks which have received the right to the initial flotation of the 'gold certificates' is not yet closed."

Interest on the certificates is computed and paid every quarter from the fifth through the 25th of the month following the period under review. The quarterly revenue is calculated on the basis of the price for 0.9999-pure gold in operation as of the first day of the month following that quarter on the London market at 3/12 of the libor rate as of that date plus 0.75 percent.

If the owners so wish the certificates can be redeemed by being exchanged for state securities of the Russian Government.

## Presidential Council Member on Social Protection, Reforms

*PM2710163393 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 27 Oct 93 p 1*

[Article by Academician Andrey Zhukov, member of the Presidential Council: "The Government's Task Is To Combine the Interests of the State and the Populace"]

[Text] The present government has had to bear a heavy burden and experience many extreme situations. In my view, its experience is extremely important also for the Cabinet that will be formed after the Federal Assembly elections.

It will probably be a government of national unity, which in its practical activities will take into account the country's basic state interests, ensuring external security and internal stability, and also the specific interests of the various strata of the population, the interests of entrepreneurs and working people. Sooner or later we will get to create such a government.

The market transition which really is under way here has raised the issue of easing the consequences of this transition for the general public. In its practical activities in respect of the broad working masses the government must pay greater attention to social protection.

The government must really encourage enterprise. At the moment, unfortunately, entrepreneurs are finding it very difficult to get off the ground in our country, to surmount the barriers of a tax system that does not encourage commodity production. The tax lever must be geared to providing incentives to the independent commodity producer.

As for lessons that should be learned from the past, there are many of them, unfortunately. Above all, the government must conduct an active, positive policy, paying more attention to the population's real needs. A decisive step has been taken toward the transition to the market, and it can now be stated unequivocally that the reforms are irreversible. This is certainly an achievement on the part of the present government. But this irreversibility must now be given concrete expression.

## Political Issues

### Documents on Local Self-Government Issued

*LD2610222993 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2040 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] Moscow, 26 October—The press service of the Russian president has reported that President Boris Yeltsin has issued an edict today "On Reform of Local Self-Government in the Russian Federation," and has also by this edict approved the "Statute on the Fundamentals of the Organization of Local Self-Government in the Russian Federation for the Period of Stage-by-Stage Constitutional Reform."

The text of the documents follows.

**"On Reform of Local Self-Government in the Russian Federation"**

For the purposes of reinforcing the basis of the power of the people and providing for reforms of local self-government in the Russian Federation, taking into account the initiatives and proposals of bodies of state power of components of the Russian Federation and bodies of local self-government and associated bodies, I decree that:

1. The attached statute on the basis for organizing local self-government in the Russian Federation be confirmed for the period of stage-by-stage constitutional reform.

2. It be established that the law of the Russian Federation "On Local Government in the Russian Federation" and other legislative documents be adopted in so far as they do not contradict the current edict.

3. It be recommended to bodies of state power of republics within the Russian Federation, krays, oblasts, towns of federal status, autonomous oblasts, and autonomous okrugs:

—that reform of local self-government be carried out in accordance with the points of the current edict;

—that proposals be presented to the Council of Ministers-Government of the Russian Federation by 1 December 1993 on improvement of the administrative and territorial structure with the aim of providing a guarantee of real local self-government.

4. The activities of town and rayon soviets of people's deputies shall end, and their functions shall be performed by the appropriate local administration.

5. Elections to organs of local self-government shall be held during the period from December 1993 to June 1994. The date of the holding of the elections shall be determined by the organs of state power of the components of the Russian Federation.

6. It shall be established that the heads of local administrations appointed or elected prior to the coming into force of the present edict are the heads of local self-administration.

By decision of the newly elected representative (legislative) organs of state power of the components of the Russian Federation, the elections of heads of local self-administration of the appropriate territories may be held in accordance with the legislation.

7. The Council of Ministers and the Government of the Russian Federation is to entrust the State Committee of the Russian Federation for Federation and Nationality Affairs with the functions of ensuring and coordinating work on implementing the reform of local self-government in the Russian Federation; and draw up in accordance with the provisions of the present edict and present before 1 December 1993 proposals on the fundamentals of the organization of local self-government in the cities of Moscow and St.Petersburg.

8. The present edict is to be submitted for examination by the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation.

9. The present edict comes into force from the moment it is published.

**STATUTE on the Fundamentals of the Organization of Local Self-Administration in the Russian Federation for the Period of Stage-by-Stage Constitutional Reform**

1. Elected and other organs of local self-administration—the assembly of representatives (Duma, municipal committee, etc.), the head of local self-administration (head of administration, mayor, elder etc)—are organs of local self-administration in towns, rural settlements, and other inhabited localities.

In territories that include several urban or rural settlements, a single organ for the local self-administration of the appropriate territories may be created by joint decision of the organs of local self-administration.

Organs of local self-administration shall be elected (formed) for a term of two years.

2. In town and rural settlements with a population not exceeding 5,000, the local self-government can be

effected directly by the population through meetings, assemblies, and by an elected head of the local self-government who is periodically accountable to a meeting or an assembly.

In town and rural settlements with a population not exceeding 50,000, meetings of representatives and also the head of the local self-government (head of administration) constitute the elected bodies of the local self-government.

In towns and other settlements with a population over 50,000, meetings of representatives and the head of administration, appointed by the head of administration of the kray, oblast, federal town, autonomous oblast, autonomous okrug, or the head of local self-government, elected by the population, constitute the bodies of local self-government.

In towns divided into rayons, okrugs, and the like, meetings of representatives and the head of the local self-government (the head of administration) constitute the urban bodies of local self-government.

Bodies of local self-government of town (district) rayon, of an urban or rural settlement, and also bodies of territorial social self-government of the population can be formed in town (district) rayons and in the urban and rural settlements attached to towns.

In rayons, the head of local self-administration (head of the rayon administration) shall be the organ of local self-administration. An organ of local self-administration constituted of representatives of the organs of local self-administration of urban and rural settlements may be formed in rayons.

In rural councils [sovety], the head of local self-administration (head of the rural council administration) shall be the organ of local self-administration. An organ of local self-administration constituted from representatives of organs of local self-administration of rural settlements may be formed in rural councils.

3. An elected representative organ of local self-administration (assembly of representatives) shall generally operate on a non-permanent basis and shall be convened for its meetings by the appropriate head of local self-administration (head of administration).

Decisions of the elected representative organ of local self-administration shall be signed by the head of local self-administration (head of administration).

The elected representative organ of local self-administration shall approve the local budget and the report on its implementation, shall establish local taxes and levies, shall approve programs for the development of the appropriate territories, shall adopt the statute (charter) on local self-administration, and shall monitor the activities of the head of local self-administration (head of administration).

Decisions connected with approving the local budget, spending of financial resources, and the establishment or repeal of local taxes and dues are taken by elected representative bodies of local self-government at the behest and with the consent of the head of local self-government (the head of administration).

The head of the local self-government (the head of administration) issues decisions and instructions on matters that fall within his remit.

4. The head of the local self-government (the head of administration), himself or through local self-government bodies set up by him, is in charge of the municipal economy, manages the municipally owned property and facilities, works out the local budget, ensures its implementation, and carries out other executive and managerial functions.

5. Electoral and other bodies of local self-government organize the execution of laws of the Russian Federation, decrees by the president of the Russian Federation, decisions by the Council of Ministers-Government of the Russian Federation, and legal (legislative) documents of components of the Russian Federation, cooperate with federal bodies of state power situated on their territory and with bodies of state power of the Russian Federation, and effect the coordination of activity of bodies of the territorial social self-government of the population.

Bodies of local self-government may in accordance with legislation be allotted separate state powers and allocated the material and financial means essential to implement these powers. Execution of these powers by bodies of local self-government is controlled by bodies of state power.

6. Bodies of local self-government independently determine their own local self-government structures. Local self-government bodies are guaranteed the right to legal protection and compensation of expenditures that may arise in connection with the additional powers entrusted to them by state power bodies.and also in connection with the illegal activities of state power bodies.

Federal bodies of state power of the Russian Federation and bodies of state power of the republics within the Russian Federation, krays, oblasts, towns of federal significance of an autonomous oblast and autonomous districts do not have the right to restrict the rights of local self-government that have been established by the Constitution of the Russian Federation and by federal legislation.

7. The title of the head of local self-government and of the elected representative body of local self-government and the procedure for electing him (creating it)—including those working on a regular (paid) basis—and other issues concerning the organization and activity of local self-government on the territory of subjects of the Russian Federation, are determined by legal (legislative) acts of the subjects of the Russian Federation on the basis of legislation of the Russian Federation, this

statute, and with due account of historical, national, and other traditions and local conditions.

During organization of local self-government, the special features of urban and rural settlements may be taken into consideration by the bodies of state power of the subjects of the Russian Federation as applied to this statute.

## Conference Makes Recommendations on Constitution

*MK2710095593 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 27 Oct 93 p 2*

[Indira Dunayeva report under the "Moscow" rubric: "Constitutional Conference Recommends. Sobchak Reports on Results of Constitutional Conference's Work Last Week"]

[Text] A press conference held by St. Petersburg Mayor Anatoliy Sobchak, coordinator of the Public Chamber of the Constitutional Conference, took place in the Russian Press House yesterday. He reported the results of last week's sessions of the Constitutional Conference: It approved recommendations to the Russian president regarding the upcoming parliamentary elections, and the adoption of a draft constitution via a referendum.

Worried over "the problem of ensuring a democratic atmosphere for the elections," Sobchak advised that the Constitutional Conference had agreed with Nikolay Ryabov, chairman of the Central Electoral Commission, on forming, from representatives of the Public Chamber of the Constitutional Conference, a public council for the monitoring of voting on the country's entire territory. He also advised that the Electoral Commission agrees with the opinion of the Public Chamber of the Constitutional Conference, that there are no legal contradictions if people around Russia add their signatures to more than one list of candidates during the time that 100,000 signatures to the proposed lists are being gathered—the voters' stance would indeed become more clearly defined on voting day.

According to Anatoliy Sobchak, participants in the Constitutional Conference back the idea of putting to an all-Russia referendum the full text of the constitution rather than excerpts. Should the draft not be approved at the referendum, the constitution should be passed, Sobchak thinks, by a specially created Constitutional Assembly, whereas the Federal Assembly would busy itself with current legislation.

Sobchak stated that the first section of the constitution should be citizens' rights and freedoms rather than "the mixed-bag section on 'Fundamentals of the Constitutional System'" as the original draft proposed.

## Filatov Interviewed on Constitution, Yeltsin's Actions

*MK2710121293 Moscow MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI in Russian No. 44, 31 Oct 93 (signed to press 26 Oct) pp A8-A9*

[Interview with Sergey Filatov, head of the Russian president's administration, by Lyudmila Telen: "Under the Sign of 'Storming and Onslaught'"]

[Text] [Telen] After the tragic events in Moscow Boris Yeltsin has been undertaking some fairly sharp moves while his close associates are calling on him to show even greater resolution. By the right of the winners?

[Filatov] The president has said more than once that it is impossible to treat the October events in terms of "victory-defeat." Yes, he is acting decisively. But does he have the right to act differently in the complicated situation that has developed today? Can he afford not to force the holding of elections? Or, let us say, the adoption of a new constitution? Life itself is calling for urgent actions and, thank God, the president is not evading them, no matter how difficult they might be.

[Telen] Yet you must agree that "storming and onslaught" in the absence of any oversight—the representative branch, the Constitutional Court, and the opposition—are dangerous for society, if, of course, it is determined to move toward democracy and not authoritarianism.

[Filatov] What, are there any grounds for such fears?

[Telen] Yes, there are. Let us take the statute on elections as an example. What democracy can one talk about when the opposition is banned while rules are changing in the course of the election campaign and obviously to the advantage of the authorities? Incumbent ministers have announced their wish to contest elections to the Duma—and the president has lifted all restrictions. At the same time his associates have begun to talk about the "separation of powers" being a principle not applicable to Russia....

[Filatov] Of course, the president might be suspected of playing up to "his camp." An unbiased analysis of the situation shows, however, that the motive behind this decision is quite different. Did we not see for ourselves during the October mutiny what confrontation between the branches can lead to? The combination of posts allows the establishment of normal contacts between them—naturally, with a separation of functions. The separation of branches remains but it does not lead to war. All of this should certainly have been done earlier, but it was obstructed by counteraction on the part of the Supreme Soviet.

[Telen] How should one appraise the president's actions with respect to the opposition? First, practically all major opposition forces are excluded from the election process, and when the election campaign is in full swing, the president suddenly shows liberalism and allows Zyuganov's and Lipitskiy's parties to take part. If this is a goodwill gesture, it is certainly a very strange one....

[Filatov] In my opinion, these parties, which discredited themselves during the revolt, should not have been allowed to contest the elections either. But the president has made a different decision and this is his right. I would like to say that he is generally extremely attentive to the drafts that he signs and sometimes he introduces amendments into them immediately before signing.

[Telen] Recently there have been many rumors that not only the president himself but also his immediate entourage are engaged in amending documents. Moreover, it is practically impossible to establish the author of a particular amendment.

[Filatov] Apparently not all people know that there is a rigid procedure for the processing of draft edicts and other documents signed by the president (this procedure is regimented by the president's orders). The latter, according to the existing rules, are endorsed by the heads of the Main Legal Directorate and the administration. But at present the situation is so extreme that occasionally the established procedures are violated.

[Telen] And you are taking this calmly?

[Filatov] I certainly am not—too many problems may arise and are actually arising already.

[Telen] In any event, reports coming from the Kremlin recently appear to be extremely conflicting. First, say, Sergey Shakhray announces his resignation owing to his disagreement with the way the president intends to reform the local soviets. A day later Shakhray himself states that the president apparently intends to reform the soviets precisely according to his (Shakhray's) model and therefore the resignation is called off.

[Filatov] This is precisely an illustration of what we have been talking about. Indeed, several draft plans for the reorganization of the soviets were prepared in parallel, including the most revolutionary one—about their forcible dissolution. Apparently Sergey Shakhray supposed that the president is going to sign precisely this draft. In fact, however, Yeltsin chose a moderate option.

[Telen] In haste, under emergency conditions it is very difficult to ensure the requisite quality even of routine documents. Was it expedient then to force the preparation of the Constitution? Only recently it was suggested that the new parliament will be temporary and will deal exclusively with the new Constitution. Then suddenly—another resolute move—apparently the Constitution will be adopted at a referendum. The suspicions are quite legitimate—the president wants to secure wide powers at the expense of the parliament's powers, and the center is seeking to take away the powers of the regions....

[Filatov] Yes, originally it was proposed that the new parliament will be interim since its upper chamber—under the former draft—was not elected but was formed from among the regional leaders. But after the October events elections to both chambers became necessary, even inevitable. Earlier, it was possible to form the Federation Council from among the leaders of soviets and heads of administrations. The soviets, however, began to be dissolved.... And then it became clear: A new Constitution needs to be adopted. I would like to recall that its draft was almost fully coordinated by the Constitutional Conference back last summer. Certain amendments, revision of a number of articles, and the rejection of the compromise solutions imposed by the deputies—all that could be done fairly quickly... Incidentally, under oversight—along with the presidential working group there is the Public Chamber led by Anatoliy Sobchak. Within the next few days the State Chamber will begin its work, which includes mostly representatives of the Federation components.

[Telen] Did the amendments affect the president's powers?

[Filatov] Yes, they did. For instance, the new draft provides for three situations where the president may dissolve the parliament. First (it was also stipulated before): Parliament expresses mistrust in the government; if the president does not agree with this, he may use the power to dissolve the parliament. Second: Parliament has three times rejected the candidacy of the prime minister proposed by the president. Incidentally, an option was considered whereby the president himself will appoint the head of government, only coordinating his candidacy with parliament. And the third situation: The government itself raises the question of confidence before parliament. If parliament denies it confidence, the president is again confronted with the dilemma: either resignation of the government or dissolution of the parliament.

[Telen] How radically are you editing the draft Constitution in so far as it regulates relations between the center and the regions?

[Filatov] We proposed that the Federation Treaty itself be excluded from the draft, leaving in only its fundamental provisions. Furthermore, it was pointed out that the distribution of powers between the federal bodies and the Federation components may be regulated by treaties, including federal ones. The statuses of the republics, krays, and oblasts have been defined. Any references to the sovereignty of Russia and the sovereignty of the republics have been dropped. The notion of citizenship has been clarified....

[Telen] Do you suppose that the president will manage to avoid a conflict with the local authorities over this? The shock of the October events will pass and the old economic problems will force the local authorities to resume their struggle against the center for their rights.

[Filatov] By that time the field for battle against it will be different—the Constitution strictly regiments these relations. Moreover, who said that the economy will continue to provoke separatist trends? Maybe quite the contrary....

[Telen] Do you mean that as of now the federal government, too, will be acting more vigorously? In this event, how justified are the suppositions that the president is going to replace Viktor Chernomyrdin with Yegor Gaydar?

[Filatov] It seems that Ruslan Khasbulatov's cause is still alive.... It was he and his associates who sought to split the government team, to set the premier against Gaydar, Chubays, and Fedorov. No, as far as I know, the president has no plans for an immediate reorganization of the government. It seems to me that some of the president's political opponents simply find it advantageous for themselves to present him as a leader striving to establish an authoritarian regime and therefore acting exclusively via revolutionary methods.

## Commentary Calls For 'Temporary' Constitution

*MK2710132093 Moscow MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI in Russian No. 44, 31 Oct 93 (signed to press 26 Oct) p A7*

[Commentary by Vyacheslav Nikonov, doctor of history, adviser to "Reform" foundation: "Not To Demand the Impossible"]

[Text] British monarch George V put up the following saying on the wall at Buckingham Palace: "Teach me not to demand the impossible and not to grieve over the irreparable." Alas, our society has been engaged in both these pursuits much more often than it has pondered the ways of achieving realistic objectives.

One may grieve as much as possible about the lost opportunities of the past few years and months: about the failure to convene the Constituent Assembly, about the aborted idea of holding simultaneous early elections for the presidency and the parliament, about the loss of the legitimate consistency of authority, about blood spilled in vain... None of this will bring us even a step closer to the way out of the continuing crisis of power. Let alone out of the freefall economy.

One may dream as much as possible about the speedy formation of a Western-style democratic regime, but every minute we will be encountering realities that came about after the "stage-by-stage constitutional reform" was launched. The road from the authoritarian starting point where the country found itself—I hope, temporarily—to a full-blown democracy is, perhaps, longer than that from the obscure sociopolitical pattern that existed before 21 September. The dilemma we are facing now is not a choice between authoritarianism and pure democracy, but a drift from a relatively soft and temporary kind of authoritarianism to a tough one, or to a so-called controllable democracy. There is no need to argue that the latter option is more preferable. If it is to materialize, it is essential to minimize the period of "government by decree." Historians of Germany will recall that this kind of government under President von Hindenburg (even with a parliament intact) sped up the downfall of the Weimar Republic and the arrival of the notorious Fuehrer to power.

In the past few days, many respected and very decent people keep saying that they will have no part of the elections to the Federal Assembly because their legal status itself is illegitimate, and as a result the country will get a rubber stamp for a parliament. Well, I wish that the legal basis of the elections were indeed more solid. But who stands to lose if authoritative, thinking people boycott the election campaign? I am certain it will be Russia, and not the powers that be.

Fears as to the rubber-stamp nature of the would-be Federal Assembly are groundless. In presidential republics (and we will not be able to avoid this model in the short run), as international experience shows, differences between the branches of power are an entirely natural phenomenon, whoever might be elected to the parliament. Even if it is made up only of the president's ardent loyalists (which will not be the case, especially in the upper chamber), they will soon develop their corporate interests and will begin to defend the powers of the legislative branch as an institution. As a result, we will once again come to the separation of powers, which is the only thing that can protect the rights and freedoms of citizens from the usurping encroachments by the state. The new parliament should be elected as soon as possible, with two other democratic principles—the freedom of speech and the right of a minority to take part in the political process—applied as widely as possible.

The president's decision to submit a new Russian constitution to a referendum has put the democratically minded public in an awkward position. On one hand, the country cannot live without a constitution without risking sliding into a dictatorship. On the other, when the constitution is drawn up by one of the interested branches of power, it is bound to be flawed and to overemphasize this particular branch's interests.

According to reports coming from the narrow circles of the constitution drafters there is ample ground for such apprehensions. Euphoria about the democratic nature of its adoption will be misplaced: It is well known that Napoleon also held a constitutional referendum in occupied Switzerland. One of the main rules regarding the drafting of the fundamental law in a democratic state is that the players vitally interested in the outcome of the political match must not have a possibility to determine the rules of the game after the match has started. From this point of view, it would be undoubtedly more preferable to have a constitution drafted and adopted by a Constituent (Constitutional) Assembly elected for this particular purpose.

Thus, the choice is reduced to either of the two hardly acceptable options: either to live without a constitution for a long time to come, or to get a constitution as early as 12 December, albeit a bad and undemocratic one. I think that this deadlock can be broken provided the constitution adopted by referendum is seen as temporary, designed for a period of two to three years, which will be necessary to reach some degree of political stabilization. Afterward—elections to the Constituent Assembly and a constitution for the ages.

Or am I also demanding the impossible?....

## Foreign Ministry Staff's Loyalty to Yeltsin Questioned

*MK2710102593 Moscow KURANTY in Russian 27 Oct 93 p 5*

[V. Oshurkov report under the "Explicitly" rubric: "Carelessness?"]

[Text] The report "Burning Their Fingers By the Putsch" (No. 197, 15 October 1993) touched upon a fairly sensitive matter concerning the line of conduct of Russian Foreign Ministry officials abroad during the parliamentary rebellion in Moscow. Their wait-and-see stance could hardly be explained by their prudence and caution, the article remarked. The problem at hand is much more complex and is rooted at the central staff of the Russian Foreign Ministry.

There is a mood of concealed hostility to President Boris Yeltsin's policy of change reigning among most Foreign Ministry officials. There are even open opponents. At any rate, there was one case of a Foreign Ministry official's joining White House defenders. PRAVDA and SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA were the most popular newspapers among ministry officials, who were also not embarrassed to read DEN. There is only a handful of democratically minded people at the Foreign Ministry, and they are clearly disliked, if not feared. Until very recently, portraits of Bolshevik leaders hung and maybe still are hanging in ministry offices. Hence, it is understandable why people at the Foreign Ministry and its foreign branches did not rush to voice their support for the president's efforts to quell the rebellion or to express sorrow over the fallen defenders of democracy. Personal observations allow me to assert that similar sentiments are common among officials at other central agencies, including the power ministries. Apparently, our president, his staff, and the government, who know everything and keep everything under control, see the current situation as normal. I do not. But who am I, after all?

## Government Leaders' 26 Oct Activities Reported

*PM2710202393 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 27 Oct 93 p 1*

[Unattributed feature: "Executive Branch Monitoring"]

[Text] **Meetings, Sessions, Conferences**

Russian government head Viktor Chernomyrdin attended to current business and, in the afternoon, participated in a session of the Agrarian Policy Council, chaired by Vice Premier Aleksandr Zaveryukha.

First Vice Premier Oleg Soskovets chaired an enlarged session of the presidium of the Industrial Policy Council. In the afternoon he chaired a session of the government Commission on Urgent Questions.

First Vice Premier Yegor Gaydar attended a conference of heads of territorial administrations of the State Committee on Antimonopoly Policy and Support for New Economic Structures in Russia, which took place at the Russian Management Academy.

First Vice Premier Vladimir Shumeyko met with K.T. Apasov, representative of the government of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan.

Vice Premier Aleksandr Zaveryukha attended the "Scientific-Technical Progress in the Engineering Sphere of the Russian Agroindustrial Complex" scientific-practical conference. Then he chaired a session of the Agrarian Policy Council.

Vice Premier Aleksandr Shokhin returned early in the morning of 26 October from Brussels where he had met with the leadership of the EC Commission in the context of preparing an Agreement on Partnership and Cooperation between Russia and the EC.

In the afternoon of 26 October Aleksandr Shokhin met with an IMF delegation. Then he received a Kazakhstan delegation. They discussed the question of continuing negotiations on the unification of the Russian and Kazakhstani monetary systems.

Vice Premier Boris Fedorov attended to current business at the Russian Finance Ministry. In the afternoon the vice premier was interviewed by BUSINESS WEEK.

Vice Premier Yuriy Yarov had a rather full schedule. In the morning he attended the All-Russia Conference "Federal and Territorial Bodies' Tasks in Providing Compulsory Medical Insurance for Russian Federation Citizens," held at the Cosmos hotel. Then Yuriy Yarov chaired a session of the commission to study matters pertaining to the investigation and reburial of the remains of Russian Emperor Nicholas II and members of his family. The vice premier also chaired a conference on the state of drug supplies for the Russian population, at which measures to improve and develop the pharmaceutical industry were examined.

### Documents

Russian Federation Council of Ministers Chairman Viktor Chernomyrdin signed a government decree on additional measures of state support for the Sakhalin Oblast economy in 1993-1995. It was adopted "in order to provide state support for priority sectors of production and of the social sphere in Sakhalin Oblast and increase protection for the population and also in view of the crisis situation that has developed in the economy of this island oblast as a result of the freeing of energy prices and transport rates and the regulation of the money and credit market."

**Pronouncements**

The major transformations in the republics of the former USSR and states of East Europe have been "too costly socially," so if these countries are to be put on their feet a "well-thought-out system of international support for social security reforms is needed." This was stated by Ella Pamfilova, Russian Federation minister for social protection, addressing a UN General Assembly committee.

**Regions**

Supplies of heat and electricity are in a critical state in Barnaul on the threshold of winter. So says an appeal to the people of Barnaul by the city administration. "The critical moment has arrived," the appeal says. "Unless the energy system's financial position is rectified to some degree through common efforts it may break down when winter sets in, with all the consequences that entails."

## 27 Oct Activities Reported

*PM2810092393 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 28 Oct 93 p 1*

[Unattributed feature: "Executive Branch Monitoring"]

[Text] **Meetings, Conferences, Consultations**

Viktor Chernomyrdin, Russian head of government, was occupied in resolving current issues.

First Vice Premier Oleg Soskovets considered questions of the state order for defense sectors. He then led the work of the commission on export controls.

First Vice Premier Yegor Gaydar took part in the work of a conference of investment fund leaders and managers. He then held a conference on questions pertaining to the Association of Privatized and Private Enterprises. In the evening of 27 October the first vice premier took part in the "Public Opinion" program live from Ostankino.

First Vice Premier Vladimir Shumeyko held a "roundtable" for Russian and foreign journalists and answered numerous questions from representatives of the press on mainly political matters. In the afternoon Vladimir Shumeyko tackled working questions at Russia's Ministry of Press and Information and during the evening took part in the "Good Evening, Moscow!" television program.

Vice Premiers Sergey Shakhray and Anatoliy Chubays are on vacation.

Vice Premier Aleksandr Zaveryukha opened an international scientific and practical conference dealing with the problems of creating a common agrarian market in the CIS countries and interested states. The vice premier then met with the chairmen of the regional committees of agro-industrial complex trade unions. Aleksandr Zaveryukha later left on a tour of duty to Ufa.

Vice Premier Boris Fedorov had two meetings—with representatives of the "Cash Union" [Kassovyy Soyuz] and representatives of the World Bank. Both were held at the Russian Finance Ministry.

During the morning of 27 October Vice Premier Aleksandr Shokhin took part in a Party of Russian Unity and Accord press conference at the Russian Agency for International Cooperation and Development. During the afternoon the vice premier held a press conference devoted to questions of implementing the agreements on uniting the monetary systems of the six CIS countries and to the talks that Aleksandr Shokhin had in Brussels with the EC Commission. During the press conference the vice premier also spoke about Russia's relations with the IMF.

In the afternoon Aleksandr Shokhin had a meeting with representatives of commercial banks and then had talks with delegations from Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan on uniting their monetary systems.

Vice Premier Yuriy Yarov had a meeting with Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam.

**Documents**

Viktor Chernomyrdin signed a Russian Council of Ministers decree on measures to improve information support for government activity. According to this document, the functions of "RTV Parliament" television and radio programs as mass media are suspended and the "RTV Parliament" parliamentary radio and television are abolished as establishments. Their material and financial resources and other property are to be handed over to the government's press service. The television programs that it will prepare will give priority to explaining the government's action program to stabilize the economy—a program approved by the president—as well as the everyday work done by the Council of Ministers, ministries, and departments to implement it.

**Cadres**

Russian Premier Viktor Chernomyrdin signed a directive Tuesday appointing Pavel Gurin, his press secretary with the rank of adviser to the head of government, as general director of ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA, at the same time relieving him of his Cabinet post.

## Burbulis Interviewed on Democracy, Yeltsin

*BR2810103593 Rome LA REPUBBLICA in Italian 27 Oct 93 p13*

[Interview with Yeltsin adviser Gennadiy Burbulis by Enrico Franceschini in Moscow; date not given: "'Russian Democracy? A Romantic Notion'"]

[Text] Moscow—Why did the "ministries of force" not oppose the revolt of Sunday, 3 October? Why did the military not intervene to restore law and order in Moscow until the following day? These unanswered questions could cause a new dispute within the Russian leadership. At best, a minister will be replaced—the minister of the interior, defense, or security. Or all three. At worst, there will be a split within the country's military and security structures, causing unimaginable consequences.

These provocative questions are being asked by the man known to his friends as the president's "right-hand man" and to his enemies as the president's "Rasputin." Gennadiy Burbulis, 45-year-old former teacher of philosophy and Marxism, has been Yeltsin's closest aide since 1990, though at present he has no government post. In a somewhat modest office on Pushkin Boulevard, where he heads a political studies institute, the Kremlin's "eminence grise" is asking a number of worrying questions: "How is it possible that a group of armed rebels attacked public offices in the country's capital in full daylight? How is it possible that no action was taken to counter their plans, which were known for months? Why did the ministers of defense, interior, and security not respond immediately to the 'state of emergency' proclaimed by Yeltsin?"

It is an implicit accusation of hesitation or disobedience. This accusation is explicit when expressed by Burbulis' "alter ego," Mikhail Poltoranin, who has been a friend and ally of and adviser to Yeltsin for years. "Internal Affairs Minister Yerin did nothing to protect the television headquarters," he stated uncompromisingly at a press conference. It was Burbulis and Poltoranin who defended the television station that night: It is said that their arrival at the Kremlin was crucial in ending the chaos.

"I am sorry to disappoint you, but Poltoranin and I worked that night, as dozens of other people worked. We did not perform any heroic role. But until an answer is found to the questions that I raised earlier, the newspapers will be tempted to seek extraordinary explanations for what happened. Ultimately they will invent pure fabrications."

[Franceschini] Will we have answers to those questions?

[Burbulis] Sooner or later, I think so. Perhaps it would be better to seek them once the new parliament has been inaugurated. Yeltsin cannot do everything on his own.

[Franceschini] But he seems forced to do so. Some people in the West are saying that it is not surprising that Russia cannot create a democratic system immediately.

[Burbulis] The issue of "strong government" is indeed our principal problem at present. Our attitude to democracy is too romantic. We forget that Russia is still witnessing the process of disintegration of that repressive totalitarian state, the USSR. It is a slow and difficult process. At the moment nobody can say what Russia will be like in 5-10 years' time. Only one thing is certain: Yeltsin has given no cause to doubt his commitment to democratic changes. He has never vacillated on that point.

[Franceschini] Yes, many people are asking: Will the December elections be free? Will the new parliament be legitimate and democratic?

[Burbulis] We hope so. But it will not be so in the way you mean. It will take more than a year, more than two or three, to establish a genuine democracy in Russia. The December elections are necessary, but they will not be the final victory for the reformers and democracy. It is a pure illusion to believe that 13 December we will all wake up singing "Santa Lucia."

[Franceschini] Yeltsin has closed down a dozen newspapers, many of which were inciting insurrection. They include PRAVDA, which was merely an opposition paper. Do you not agree that, without opposition papers, it will be impossible to talk of freedom of the press in Russia?

[Burbulis] I think that the PRAVDA problem will be resolved soon. But it would be a good thing also to have appropriate laws to counter the "abuses" of the freedom of the press, and to prosecute newspapers that libel us or that publish appeals damaging to the security and interests of the state.

[Franceschini] The program of your party, "Russia's Choice," is clear—to continue the reforms. Its ideology is less clear. Is it closer to Thatcher or to the Labor Party? To Mitterrand or to the Gaullists?

[Burbulis] Look, each country establishes democracy in different ways. We will not imitate that of other countries. Our parties today reflect Russia's present economic and cultural potential. My party advocates a normal "liberal center." It would be impossible to say more than that for the present.

[Franceschini] You have no official posts, yet you work for Yeltsin. What kind of relationship do you have?

[Burbulis] It is simple. I was, and remain, Boris Yeltsin's comrade in arms, irrespective of our personal relations and of whatever may be said by our allies and adversaries.

[Franceschini] On the subject of adversaries: Why do you have so many?

[Burbulis] It is no mystery to me. Those who hate me do so because they are forced to reckon with a very tenacious adversary. God willing, political hatred will never turn into personal hatred.

## Presidential Aide Comments on New Parliament

*PM2710144193 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 26 Oct 93 p 2*

[Unattributed account of comments by Pavel Borodin, chief of the Main Social and Production Department of the Russian Federation Presidential Administration, under "Economic Manager's Viewpoint" rubric: "Let Us Not Resurrect a Monster in the Form of the New Parliament"]

[Text] We should not always act pragmatically, but of course it is always useful to heed or at least listen to the opinion of a pragmatist—whatever the problem under discussion. In this case we asked Pavel Borodin, chief of the Main Social and Production Department of the Russian Federation Presidential Administration, to state his opinion in our newspaper regarding the problems involved in setting up the new federal organs of power.

[Borodin] It is entirely natural that I wholly and completely support the idea of setting up a new-style parliament. A parliament that would genuinely care about Russia—about us Russians.

This is precisely why it is important to keep both feet on the ground when establishing power structures of this kind, and to soberly assess the financial and organizational factors relating to their upkeep and to backup for their activity.

Slogans, appeals, the example of other countries, and so forth are all very well. But at the present time (and, indeed, all the time) we need to assess our own capabilities, not other people's. And the more you think about this purely pragmatic aspect of the matter, the more doubts you begin to have: Is the upkeep of such an enormous and clumsy organ beyond our means; what should the status of the Federal Assembly—the Russian Federation's parliament—be?

In total it comprises some 700 people. They have to be housed and provided with residential quarters, workplaces, transportation, and communications—according to calculations, this represents immediate expenditure amounting to approximately 350 billion rubles [R] taking into account the cost of maintaining service personnel (who number 40,000 people). Add to this approximately R45 billion for annual current expenses. Then there is the social base: Dachas, rest houses, and so forth.

These sums would simply kill us!

And the frightening thing is that this is an endless process.

Let us recall how apartments were basically confiscated from Muscovites to house USSR people's deputies, and then Russian deputies. Now we will have to find accommodations for the new parliamentarians all over again.

Again and again I ask myself: Are we not in the guise of parliament resurrecting a monster whose efforts will be directed entirely to self-preservation?

Apartments, dachas, a welter of other social issues....

Whereas no time is left to address the immediate tasks connected with the implementation of the reforms or the strengthening of the country's economy.

You have to agree that we have seen all this before, it has already been demonstrated to us by the work experience of the "previous" elected organs.

And here we need to bear in mind that the newly established structures will be far bulkier and twice as expensive to run: "Yesterday's" organs of power worked in sessions during flying visits. There were fewer parliamentarians as well.

If we bear in mind that they will be financed from the budget, then each one of us, as a taxpayer who shapes this budget, is entitled to ask what he is paying for and where his money is going—toward productive work by his elected representatives and future prosperity and peace of mind, or toward the political instability of society and possible social upheavals of which we have seen so many in recent years and which were caused among other things by the imperfections and unwieldiness of the structure of our elected representative organs, what I would call the excessive personal and social ambitions of the deputies (not all of them, of course), and the impossibility of satisfying them for the reasons named above?

It seems we can avoid all this by setting up a parliament which would succeed by ability rather than sheer weight of numbers, so to speak. I believe it should contain no more than 200-250 members.

It would be better to have a small Federal Assembly, and for professionals to work in it. And it would be better to strengthen its muscles by means of advisers, political analysts, and experts. It would be perfectly possible to choose this category of staffers basically from among Muscovites, which would enable a number of social issues to be eliminated and reduce expenditure on the upkeep of the elected organs to a minimum.

This is basically how the elected organs in many countries—the United States, Britain, and France—are organized and carry out their work.

I am convinced that all this would have a positive impact on the problem of setting up the federal organs of power.

We still have time. Although I believe that the elections should be rescheduled to November or December next year. We need to prepare for them with the utmost care.

We undoubtedly need to stop rebuilding while we are still on the move.

Major problems such as establishing federal organs of power require an appropriate approach.

## NSF's Pavlov Recounts 3-4 Oct Events

*AU2710111893 Prague CESKY DENIK in Czech 21 Oct 93 p 5*

[Interview with Nikolay Pavlov, deputy in former Supreme Soviet of the National Salvation Front, by Ctirad Svitak; place and date not given: "'Yeltsin's Regime Went Bankrupt', Nikolay Pavlov, Member of the Russian Opposition, Tells CESKY DENIK"]

[Text] [Svitak] How do you view—as a one of the leaders of the so-called "irreconcilable" opposition represented by the banned National Salvation Front [NSF]—the dramatic developments at the beginning of October?

[Pavlov] In actual fact, the situation is ridiculously simple. There has been a coup d'etat. What allowed it to happen? It was the consequence of the errors made by Rutskoy and Khasbulatov. Provocations on the part of the government had their effect, too. They told us that the army was on our side and provoked the supporters of the Soviets to take steps that gave the government a pretext for intervening by force.

[Svitak] Excuse me, but the government reacted to the attack on the mayor's office and the television center in Ostankino....

[Pavlov] Well, look at what happened near the Moscow mayor's office on Sunday 3 October. The situation came to a head. We tried to persuade, through megaphones, the demonstrators not to throw stones at the OMON [Special Purpose Militia Detachment] members. At the same time, we called on OMON to retreat, since people had broken through the encirclement around the Supreme Soviet. Finally, we managed to calm the situation down. Suddenly, an armored vehicle began firing into the air, and then shots rang out from the mayor's office, killing one and wounding two. No reporter who was present denies it. Only then did we launch an attack against the mayor's office....

[Svitak] What about Rutskoy's calls to besiege Ostankino and take the Kremlin?

[Pavlov] Yeltsin's anti-people regime wanted the moral justification to do away with parliament. This is why they wanted us to start shooting. Unfortunately, this is what actually happened. It remains a mystery why Rutskoy and Khasbulatov did not control the situation, and why Rutskoy called on people to go to Ostankino. Our strategy, which we all supported, was to remain in the Supreme Soviet building. We were ready to defend ourselves in case we were attacked. We did not plan anything else.

[Svitak] So why was there the attack against Ostankino?

[Pavlov] On 21 September, Yeltsin introduced a fascist regime and all radio and television broadcasts were under his absolute control. Neither Khasbulatov nor Rutskoy was given a chance to speak on television. Because of that, we tried to storm the television building. However, those who led the attack on Ostankino either made a political mistake, or even something worse, maybe. Logically, this situation led to an explosion. It does not matter who fired the first shot.

[Svitak] The sequence of events tells us something else, however....

[Pavlov] By the end of September, the situation had changed. On 30 September an influential adviser to Khasbulatov, Kurginyan, was chased out of the Supreme Soviet building. We agreed with his analysis of the situation. He explained to all the groups of people who were standing before the building that no demonstrations or clashes were desirable. I do not know what changed the situation afterwards. Maybe, some imprecise information came from one of the important advisers to Rutskoy. When Rutskoy addressed the people from a balcony—calling on the crowd to go to Ostankino—I had the feeling that a tragedy was in the offing. However, from the moral viewpoint I cannot criticize Rutskoy or Khasbulatov, since they are in prison and are likely to face a gloomy future. However, the question remains why, if they knew the opinion of the deputies, they let the situation develop in this direction. I do not know why, but it looks as if Rutskoy and Khasbulatov lost control over themselves. Maybe, someone deceived them. Maybe, someone came and told them that the army would support them. Some people blame it on the fact that it was not possible to stop the crowd. Certainly, such situations do arise from time to time, but political leaders are supposed to manage them. The very moment Rutskoy took on his presidential duties, he became morally and politically responsible for the actions of the people who came to support him. We have nothing to do with the activities in which weapons were used. We did not know about everything that was going on. We viewed the situation as follows: We had elected Rutskoy as president, he had taken the oath, and we believed that all the problems were within his jurisdiction, and the jurisdiction of the newly elected government. Meanwhile, we were drafting new laws.

[Svitak] What would the situation be like now if the bloodshed had not happened?

[Pavlov] The Federation's Soviet was to meet on Tuesday. If nothing had happened, Yeltsin would have had to capitulate and we would have won, since the members of all the Federation's bodies have insisted on early elections to parliament and presidential elections, and on stopping the blockade of parliament. We were inclined to agree, and suggested that the elections be held in March. The victory of the regime is the regime's political bankruptcy. Their efforts to describe us as putschists are ridiculous.

[Svitak] You called on fascist-oriented storm troops, headed by Barkashov, to protect the Constitution and to help you....

[Pavlov] Barkashov's people are no real power. Even today, it is not clear to me who let them into the Supreme

Soviet building and allowed them to stage an act in uniform in front of the television cameras. Now one really knows whether they are a political party or a movement, and why they had offices in a building belonging to the Moscow Soviet. I am convinced that it was a provocation on the part of the police to discredit us.

[Svitak] President Yeltsin has suggested that the elections be held in December. You are one of the deputies who opposed this. Are you so afraid of losing your mandate?

[Pavlov] Please, do not put the question in this way. Moreover, it cannot even be formulated like that. It was not the elections in December, but the dissolution of parliament that was unacceptable. We could not accept that there should be new elections of deputies, while the president remains in office.

[Svitak] Your efforts to prevent the elections ended in bloodshed. Now, the government has confirmed that the elections will be held as originally planned....

[Pavlov] It is unlawful what the government is doing today—all these decrees with stamps on them.... We tried to protect constitutionality. Now, we cannot assume that the next development will conform to the law. Nevertheless, even if we believe that the situation is absurd, we are against boycotting the elections.

[Svitak] You are constantly referring to the Constitution. According to some political commentators, however, the Russian Constitution, with all its articles contradicting one another, is reminiscent of a pair of patched pants....

[Pavlov] I want you to abstain from speaking about the Constitution of my country like that. Our Constitution is quite normal, and is in line with our traditions. The changes that caused our Constitution to contain contradicting articles were initiated by Yeltsin several years ago, when he was Supreme Soviet chairman. Until then, there were no discrepancies in our Constitution. Yeltsin swore on the Constitution. Anyone who tries to imply that our valid Constitution is bad is a bandit.

### Commission To Consider Reburial of Imperial Family's Remains

*PM2710201193 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 26 Oct 93 p 2*

[Unattributed report under the "Monitoring" roundup: "Commissions"]

[Text] The Commission for the Burial of the Remains of Members of the Imperial Family is starting work. It will convene at the beginning of this week in order to define which problems it will face and the options available, and to work out specific proposals, Russian Federation Government Vice Premier Yuriy Yarov told an ITAR-TASS correspondent. As chairman of the commission, Yarov did not express his own view in respect of this event "so as not to influence the members of the commission by means of my authority," but he did not deny that as a native of St. Petersburg he is not indifferent to this problem.

Yuriy Yarov confirmed that the question of the remains found buried in Yekaterinburg has been resolved, and that no more doubts should arise. The debates which did revolve around this have, in his view, received a sufficiently clear response. The analytical documentation will be submitted to the commission, which will be able to refer to it, he noted.

## Election Issues

### Electoral Bloc Leaders Comment on Plans

*LD2710223193*

[Editorial Report] Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian at 1655 GMT on 27 October carries the 60-minute live "Public Opinion" program with an unidentified moderator, Aleksandr Bukhvalov of the Central Electoral Commission, and the following electoral bloc leaders: Konstantin Borovoy of the August Bloc; Gennadiy Zyuganov of the Russian Communist Party; Yegor Gaydar of Russia's Choice; Vladimir Zhirinovskiy of the Liberal Democratic Party; and Anatoliy Sobchak of the Democratic Reform Movement.

The moderator asks the guests to explain the differences between their parties. Borovoy says he supports reform for the benefit of real people rather than civil servants and the divorce of the economy from the state. Zyuganov says the Communist Party spoke for labor, people power, and fairness and has the support of 600,000 people. He says the communists support the resurrection of the Union. He then lists some of his supporters.

Gaydar says that Russia's Choice promises a continuation of the reforms begun two years ago that were prevented from coming to fruition. He points out that his party has the experience to develop Russia properly but does not promise any easy options.

Sobchak says he does not believe in making any unrealistic election promises on behalf of the Democratic Reform Movement. He says the main priority is to halt the decline in all areas of life in Russia. Sobchak says industry will be developed and entrepreneurship encouraged for this purpose.

Zhirinovskiy says the Liberal Democratic Party supports a strong, revived Russian state and a strong presidency along the lines of czarism, as well as the gradual introduction of the private ownership of land. On foreign policy, he says he supports an independent Russian line to provide for her own security, with closed borders to protect from the threat from the south.

Zhirinovskiy adds: "No economic reform can take place while there is a danger to Russia from the south, so first we need to reform the state. We need a strong state. We need to close the border to all foreign elements undesirable to Russia so that no one can infiltrate into Russia, destroy it, plunder it, or demean our people. Only when a strong state appears—led by a strong president with a new strong Russian Army and new border forces—and we close our borders to all who are preventing us from developing peacefully, only then will new economic reform begin." Zhirinovskiy then promises a 100 percent rise in the standard of living within six months of being elected.

The moderator then explains procedures being used to conduct a snap public opinion poll during the program and gives some preliminary results of the polling.

The moderator then asks a second question: What is the guarantee that your pre-election promises will be carried out? Zhirinovskiy does not answer because he ran over time on the first question.

Borovoy says the main guarantee that promises will be carried out is the people who are elected: a new professional class independent of the old bureaucracy. Second, he says that the August Bloc obliged all its candidates to fulfill their promises. Borovoy adds that social development in Russia is leading toward fulfilling promises.

Zyuganov says no guarantees can be given in a legal vacuum, but the Communist Party has a very broad base of representation. He says: "Nobody can give any guarantees under conditions when no authority is legal or legitimate. I consider the main guarantee we can give to be the fact that our bloc includes representatives of all specialities, very many professional lawyers, and all the nationalities and peoples of our boundless motherland." Zyuganov goes on to recap some communist policies.

Gaydar says he represents the party currently in power, which did not intend to make empty promises that they already understood could not be carried out. He says that the proposals they make are already being acted on.

Sobchak says his guarantees are in his programs, which are all realistic. He also claims a large number of highly qualified supporters.

The moderator then asks what external circumstances might lead to a breach of election promises.

Borovoy says he might call for cooperation between parties in a case where peace or social calm are threatened. He says: "There is only one circumstance that would allow us to breach our program, and that is a circumstance like that which arose during the latest crisis. Under those conditions, we would consider the maintenance of calm, keeping citizens calm, and balancing the interests of all political forces to be significantly more important than carrying out our program. That is the moment when we would offer our hand to the leaders of all political parties in order to return to peace and calm. There are no other circumstances that would allow the August Bloc or its members to break their word or program."

Zyuganov says he gave no such promises and again recaps elements of communist policy. Gaydar says it would always be explained to the electorate what was possible and what was not. Sobchak says he sees no possible circumstances when the principles of his movement would be jettisoned. Zhirinovskiy says leadership should not be forced to break its word if it makes correct forecasts and assessments of situations and again promises honesty and the protection of Russian interests at the cost of neighbors.

The moderator then asks the guests if they are capable of taking upon themselves the responsibility for vital decisions. Borovoy refers to the composition of his bloc, pointing out that it consists of decisionmakers. Zhirinovskiy does not answer because he has again run over time. Zyuganov says he knows the country and its workers and had predicted the events in Tajikistan and the Caucasus. He says he understands Russia and understands why his policies are best.

Gaydar says: "I have had to make many responsible decisions in my life, some of them well-known—such as the liberalization of prices—and others not so well-known—such as, for example, the order to Russian troops to fire for effect if they are attacked on the territory of the former USSR republics. I have never shunned responsibility for such decisions. My fellow countrymen can judge whether they are good or bad, and the final judgment will be pronounced by history. I do not intend to avoid responsibility in the future".

Sobchak says he has also had to make vital decisions for his city and for his country as a member of the Presidential Council. He adds that his movement has many people capable of bearing responsibility.

Bukhvalov, of the Central Electoral Commission, then comments on the running totals for the snap telephone election poll, saying that decisiveness on the part of the studio guests was evidently affecting the results.

The moderator then asks the guests what degree of populism is permitted in each bloc's program. Borovoy says not lies but all measures to improve the lot of the people are permitted. Zyuganov says the current state of the country is a result of populism and neglect of communist values. He requests that people support their signature collection campaign following their two-week ban.

Gaydar discusses the great harm done by empty promises and says he, therefore, rejects populism. He had been criticized, he says, for speaking too directly, but he says that truth is the best policy.

Sobchak gives a dictionary definition of populism and requests that the word not be misinterpreted.

Zhirinovskiy says: "We have always held patriotic views and therefore hope to win the votes of those who have lost their faith in the communists and those who have lost faith in the democrats. These latter give promises but, regrettably, have not done anything worthwhile so far. I am ready to implement the patriots' program in full. In this sense, there is a certain amount of populism here, because we rely on the three forces dominating the present situation. I repeat once again: No party, no government, will be able to bring the country out of the crisis promptly and with drastic results without a drastic change of foreign policy. So, our populism consists in only one thing: We promise to improve the state of affairs in the country promptly through an altered foreign policy. This is our slogan. It is real and can be implemented."

The moderator then asks viewers to indicate whose answers are most reliable and says the results will be given in one hour. She then reads more telegrams of support and ends the first part of the program.

The second part of the program begins with the moderator reporting the results of the opinion poll: a total of 2698 replies were received—45 percent voted for Gaydar, 5 percent for Sobchak, 3 percent for Borovoy, 36 percent for Zyuganov, and 10 percent for Zhirinovskiy.

The moderator then asks the guests how many votes their party is hoping to receive and what will be done if the required number are not received. Sobchak says it is too early to say; if the required number are not received, it will be parliament's loss.

Borovoy says he is happy with the results of today's poll and calls on people to vote for August Bloc. He says if the August Bloc does not receive the required number of votes, its members are prepared to use their talents for Russia in other ways.

Gaydar says that forecasting the results of the election is very difficult, but the results of today's poll were very significant. He says: "Experience shows that Russian democrats are capable of uniting under crisis conditions and are capable of splitting into thousands of different groups very quickly, just as soon as they think victory is assured. What we saw today shows that we must not continue to allow personal ambition and passions and interests to hide the most important thing: our country and its fate."

Zyuganov says he had received 65 telegrams of support and four that criticized him. He regrets the state of the country and appeals to what he calls a Russian sense of fairness. He calls on citizens to vote for the real patriots and resurrect the communist press.

Zhirinovskiy says that only Russians will lose out if they do not vote for him and claims to have made correct forecasts of civil war previously. He also claims that all the telegrams he has received support him. He says: "These elections are the most expensive that have ever been held in our country. So I appeal to you, to all Russians. First, I am grateful to those who sent telegrams. The telegrams all supported us, and the senders are all going to vote. Our party needs material help today, however. So help us just as you did two years ago. Send your cash transfers to Moscow 103045, in my name."

Bukhvalov then comments on the poll results, and the program ends with an announcement by the moderator.

## Parties Present Lists of Candidates

*LD2710221793 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2003 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] The Alliance of Russian Patriots has presented a list of its candidates to the State Duma to the Central Election Commission on Wednesday.

The organization, which encompasses the People's Patriotic Party and the Union of Veterans of Afghanistan, is headed by Aleksandr Kotenev.

The Party of Russian Unity and Concord [Accord] headed by Sergey Shakhray is expected to submit its own list of candidates by Wednesday evening.

This means that by 24:00 on Wednesday the Central Election Commission will have registered 25 lists presented by various parties and blocs.

The organizations that have submitted their lists are (in the order the lists were presented): the Liberal Democratic Party (led by Vladimir Zhirinovsky), National Republican Party (Nikolay Lysenko), the August Association (Konstantin Borovoy), the Democratic Party of Russia (Nikolay Travkin), the Women of Russia political movement, the Conservative Party (Lev Ubozhko), the Consolidation Party (Aleksandr Tikhonov), the Constitutional Democratic Party (Mikhail Astafyev), the Christian Democratic Party (Aleksandr Chuyev), the Russian Christian Democratic Movement (Viktor Aksyuchits), the Agrarian Party (Mikhail Lapshin), the Russian National Union (Sergey Baburin), the Yavlinsky-Boldyrev-Lukin bloc, the Motherland bloc (Viktor Stepanov, Lyudmila Vartazarova et al.), the bloc Civic Union for Stability, Justice and Progress (Arkadiy Volskiy), the Russia's Choice bloc (Yegor Gaydar), the Greens Party, the Kedr (Cedar) environmental movement, the Dignity and Charity bloc, the New Russia bloc (Telman Gdlyan), the Young People's Housing Cooperative, the Humanitarian Party, the Future Russia - New Names bloc encompassing the youth movement of the Free Russia Popular Party and the Civic Union political and economic association, the Alliance of Russian Patriots, and the Party of Russian Unity and Concord.

The Russian Movement for Democratic Reforms and the Communist Party of the Russian Federation are the only major political organizations which have not yet presented their lists.

### Shokhin Articulates Shakhray's Party Guidelines

*MK2710103593 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 27 Oct 93 p 3*

[Natalya Kalashnikova report: "Party for Russian Unity and Accord Advocates Reform Course and 'the Start of Lifting Russia Out of the Crisis'"]

[Text] Russian Deputy Prime Minister Aleksandr Shokhin is a founder of the Party for Russian Unity and Accord [PRES] (it is habitually called Shakhray's party). The deputy prime minister heads the drafting commission tasked with drawing up the party's platform, the basic provisions of which he kindly agreed to comment upon for your KOMMERSANT-DAILY correspondent Natalya Kalashnikova.

Mr. Shokhin recalled during the conversation that on the eve of the election campaign, he proposed that all ministers wishing to run for office resign, but this idea was turned down. Another initiative by the deputy prime minister did not find any backing, either: that government members take leave so that they could not use their official position during the electoral marathon. Mr. Shokhin estimates that the Party for Russian Unity and Accord has very good chances of success. In his words, it even has a chance to finish first, although experts from the "Russia's Choice" bloc believe that the party will not be able to scrape together more than 15 percent of the vote, and that their own party will be on top. At the same time, in Mr. Shokhin's view, many things will depend on whether electoral blocs will split up or not, how carefully their electoral platforms will be devised, and, after all, "whether the candidates will besmirch each other, forgetting about their common opponent—the communists and patriots."

Mr. Shokhin pointed out that while aiming to continue the course of economic reform, his party's program somewhat shifts emphasis, particularly in relations between the center and the regions. The program's economic section is based on the principle of financial, budget, and economic federalism—in other words, on the restoration of a single economic space that "is currently pierced by some decisions by the Supreme Soviet, the president, and the government on granting benefits." In the deputy prime minister's view, the disparities in the economic space give rise to tensions among regions, which sometimes leads to separatist actions and threats. The Party for Russian Unity and Accord also favors adjusting a number of economic measures already undertaken, including privatization. In a number of cases the latter boosted disintegration of large enterprises, the deputy prime minister said. Those to be privatized first were the enterprises' units that were "closest to the market" ("transportation and sales units"). Antimonopoly legislation also contributed to this disintegration. Mr. Shokhin believes that in a number of cases we should "forget about universal models and to act in accordance with the possibilities of economic growth."

Another provision of the platform (which is reflected in the party's name) is "the search for vectors of accord," not only between the center and the regions, but also between various social groups. In sum, Mr. Shokhin pointed out that the Party for Russian Unity and Accord is a political entity that "advocates a course for the continuation of reform and the start of lifting Russia out of the crisis, not by loosening financial policy, but by searching for tools that would complement it."

### Stankevich Comments on Election Chances of PRES

*LD2810081993 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0751 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tamara Ivanova]

[Text] Moscow October 28 TASS— "We should avoid creating a one-party monolith unity in the future parliament since we have rather bitter experience in this field," said Sergey Stankevich, presidential adviser for political issues, in an interview with ITAR-TASS.

He hopes that the Party of Russian Unity and Accord [PRES] will have the second biggest number of factions in the future parliament after the "Russia's Choice."

According to Stankevich, the programme of his party is remarkable for its moderate reformist character sparing man, a friendly attitude to all political parties and the idea "of bringing lands closer together."

Stankevich, like the party's leader, intends to take a vacation to take part in the election campaign, saying that he has not been on leave this year yet. Stankevich is a member of the party's Moscow regional organisation and is responsible for holding elections in the capital. Therefore, during this period he does not intend to visit Russia's regions.

### Lukin Interivewed on Election Bloc

*PM2710152193 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 27 Oct 93 p 7*

[Interview with Vladimir Lukin, Russian ambassador to Washington, by Yelena Ovcharenko: place and date not given: "Ambassador Lukin Not Afraid of 'Baker's Dozen'"]

[Text] By the standards of present times, marked by the constantly rising cost of living, a vacation trip to a resort is becoming increasingly unfeasible for most people. What can they do on vacation if their vacation has come in October? Without urging everyone to follow this example, I should nonetheless like to report that Vladimir Petrovich Lukin, Russian ambassador to Washington, has devoted his legitimate leave to politics and pre-election activity.

[Ovcharenko] Did it merely seem to me to be so or were you really not at all the events held within the framework of the U.S. secretary of state's visit to Moscow? I asked him.

[Lukin] I was at all the talks and important meetings. I missed some other events—since I was still formally on leave.

[Ovcharenko] Why did you decide to take part in a process from which you personally are separated by many thousands of kilometers?

[Lukin] It is my country. That is why I wanted to.

[Ovcharenko] The name of the bloc—"Russia and freedom"—has a fateful ring. Unless I am wrong, it was you who thought it up?

[Lukin] Yes, I suggested this version. In my opinion it reflects concern for the fate of the motherland and for the fate of democracy! But after long debates we decided to call our bloc simply by three names.

[Ovcharenko] Why did you unite with Yavlinskiy:

[Lukin] I am attracted by some aspects of Yavlinskiy's program. He makes economic proposals which combine two elements: their market nature and orientation toward reforms and, at the same time, an acute understanding of the fact that Russia is Russia—a country where you can do nothing without the state. Where you can do nothing suddenly, where it is essential to follow the social aspects of reforms particularly attentively. All that impresses me.

In addition in our alliance there is concern that the reforms should be radical and consistent and at the same time bloodless. Russia in my view has shed more than enough blood for a bright future.

[Ovcharenko] But when you return to Washington how do you propose to work with the voters?

[Lukin] Yes, my main work is there, so I can do it only when I am taking leave: I have taken part of my leave now and have worked quite actively at the initial stage. I shall spend my remaining days directly before the elections.

[Ovcharenko] Returning to an unseemly situation, "an ambassador who is not an ambassador," what would you then say to the journalists who have turned to you?

[Lukin] Oh, I am tired of giving explanations on this score. Many people were perplexed, many shrugged, because it has come to pass that our embassy's work is usually considered to be not the worst. I had a feeling there was some kind of squabble or intrigue—they were turning to me for explanations. I did my best to avoid answering these questions.

[Ovcharenko] What do you consider your main service as ambassador in Washington?

[Lukin] You would do better to ask someone else. But it seems to me I have managed to substantially change the attitude of my compatriots living there toward the embassy and in general toward everything connected with the Russian state mission in the United States. I believe that the image of Russia in America as a democratic country is connected to a certain extent with the style of work of the embassy and the ambassador.

[Ovcharenko] In America the attitude toward the October events in Russia was not so simple as some of our newspapers reported...

[Lukin] But was it possible in general to accept simply events which smell of blood and ashes? Over there they were concerned the latest very serious and dangerous ordeal on our path. What happened was a small civil war. Fortunately, a small one, but unfortunately a civil war. Americans have various opinions and fears in this connection. We must strive to ensure that the boundary between friendly participation in our affairs and control of them for our edification is not crossed.

[Ovcharenko] Vladimir Petrovich, what lies ahead for you?

[Lukin] The elections. And although I do not say I will be defeated I will always have the possibility of working professionally, being an international expert. [Lukin ends]

...Lukin and I talked late in the evening the day before he flew to the country where the people are not ashamed to be superstitious and refuse to succumb to fate in small details. Thus, in America you will never find a 13th floor or the house number 13. There is no such number—except in the calendar and in very important state registers—at all here. It was only in the morning that I learned that the Lukin-Yavlinskiy-Boldyrev bloc had been registered as number 13. So that they will obviously vote for them without any prejudice.

## Yavlinskiy Outlines Election Stance

*LD2710173493 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1516 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Anna Melnikova]

[Text] Moscow, 27 Oct—The Yavlinskiy-Boldyrev-Lukin electoral bloc rejects unpredictability and "shock measures" in economics and politics, the eminent economist Grigoriy Yavlinskiy stated.

Setting out the main principles of the bloc's economic strategy in an exclusive interview with an ITAR-TASS correspondent, he was certain that there are solutions to the crisis that do not involve dividing society.

The electoral bloc's blueprint differs mainly from the program pursued by the government and proclaimed by the "Russia's Choice" bloc in that the "Bloc of Three" does not espouse the ways and means which the government has been using for the past two years when carrying out the reforms and which, according to Yavlinskiy, "could lead to completely opposite results and pose a real threat to the ideals proclaimed."

First, in Yavlinskiy's view, inflation cannot be fought successfully without institutional changes in the economy, in other words without radical changes to ownership relations, de-monopolization and a change away from the system of semi-state interests to a system of private owners' interests. He is convinced that "financial stabilization cannot be achieved within the limits of the previous economic system."

Second, "with regard to the regions, the emphasis of policy should be shifted to reform from below."

Yavlinskiy believes the third principle to be close economic collaboration with the former republics of the USSR. "In spite of the fact that an economic treaty has been signed twice, because of the inertia of the Russian government, there have as yet been no results," Yavlinskiy noted.

He said that "systematic changes in the ultra-monopolist economy and not attempts to liberalize it" was the fourth priority.

The fifth point in Yavlinskiy's program is a review of the attitude toward the whole state budget system in favor of federalizing the taxation system and improving it.

The bloc leader devoted particular attention to the principles of privatization. He comes out sharply against the "collectivization" of industry through a voucher system "in which 40 percent of an enterprise's shares belong to the workforce, 40 percent to the state and 20 percent to the director." Thus, in Grigoriy Yavlinskiy's view, a process is under way whereby enterprises are being converted into kinds of collective farms where no one is responsible for anything. He is convinced that "attracting investment to modernize and restructure such 'collective farms' is futile."

Finally, preventing the outflow of the foreign currency that accumulates in the accounts of Russian enterprises, organizations, and private individuals outside the country is a fundamental tenet of the economic strategy of the Yavlinskiy-Boldyrev-Lukin bloc. "It is necessary to convert to a system whereby the government forecasts the exchange rate and maintains it within the confines of the commitments that it takes upon itself," the academic stated.

Proceeeding to expound the political views of his associates in the electoral bloc, Yavlinskiy said that he does not consider it expedient to put the draft constitution to vote at the referendum simultaneously with the elections. In his opinion, the main point of the constitution - the issue of the federative structure of Russia - "is, in the draft, quite ill-considered." He described the current attempt by the authors of the draft constitution to put all localities on an equal footing and remove the question of sovereignization as "laying mines around a decision, which could trigger off fresh conflicts in the future." Yavlinskiy said that "the question of federative structure requires a serious discussion and working out of standpoints taking into account the results of the 12 December elections."

According to him, the new constitution should be discussed and submitted to the referendum by the new parliament. Otherwise it will appear as though the election of the parliament side-stepped the current constitution and the question of immediately calling new parliamentary elections could arise, which could destabilize the situation, he said.

The leader of the bloc considers that the following sequence of actions would be expedient: electing a parliament for adopting the constitution; preparing a draft constitution and submitting it to the referendum; calling presidential elections on the basis of the new constitution and holding them; then holding the elections to the local bodies of power, and finally, holding new parliamentary elections.

Speaking on the possible deadlines for such a marathon, he said that "it would be a good thing to have it finished within two years." If things happen according to this schedule, "the parliament being elected now will fulfill a truly historic mission of the founder of a new, democratic Russia," the bloc's leader said.

As for his plans for the future, Grigoriy Yavlinskiy confirmed his intention to take part in the presidential elections "if they are lawful and legally correct."

## RDDR Leaders Present Election Manifesto

*LD2710131893 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1100 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] [Correspondent V. Skvortsov] The leaders of the Russian Movement of Democratic Reforms [RDDR] presented their election manifesto today. Despite the fact that there are no members of the present cabinet in its ranks, most RDDR candidates will probably get enough votes to take seats in the State Duma. They also count on becoming a part of a coalition government.

[Begin recording] [St. Petersburg Mayor Anatoliy Sobchak, speaking from the rostrum] Encouragement of production, encouragement of producers, rather than any financial reforms, should be chosen as a basis of economic reforms.

[Former Moscow Mayor Gavriil Popov, speaking from the rostrum] This is an economic policy which is an alternative to the present government's course. Instead of monetarism, we place the emphasis on production. This is also an alternative social policy. [end recording]

[Skvortsov] Each speaker had his own vision of the most important points of the association's election manifesto. This is not some kind of discrepancy, since these are highly trustworthy people known as stalwart supporters of democracy and reforms, and real specialists in their own fields. It looks as if it is the presence of these people in the ranks of the association, rather than its program, that gives RDDR a real chance of success on 12 December.

## Yakovlev, Others on RDDR List

*LD2710133693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1231 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yuriy Filippov]

[Text] Moscow October 27 TASS—Aleksandr Yakovlev, who was an aide of Mikhail Gorbachev and the father of glasnost in the former USSR, and pop star Oleg Gazmanov are on the election list of the Russian Movement of Democratic Reform [RDDR] together with a number of former Soviet democratic lawmakers and such noted military as Air Force Marshal Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov, it was announced at a press conference on Wednesday [27 October].

Such different people are united "by a common view on the present and future of Russia," explained St. Petersburg Mayor Anatoliy Sobchak who is also on the list.

He added that candidates of the movement advance "a social and economic programme alternative to the government course".

Noted entrepreneur Svyatoslav Fyodorov explained that Russia needs a government of "democratic capitalism" oriented on the creation of a maximum possible number of private owners. He added that raw materials should become the property of independent owners, rather than that of the state.

Summing up the tasks of the future government, Fyodorov said that it has to bring Russia to the world market "not with spoiled tomatoes, but with cars no worse than the "Mercedes" and planes no worse than the "Boeing".

The Russian Movement of Democratic Reforms, which has on the election list also its chairman Gavriil Popov, film actors Oleg Basilashvili and Kirill Lavrov, composer Andrey Petrov, said it can join efforts with any democratically-oriented organisation, but rules out contacts with "communo-fascist" forces.

## Electoral Commission Official Explains Required Documents

*PM2710142793 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 26 Oct 93 p 2*

[Interview with Candidate of Juridical Sciences A.V. Ivanchenko, deputy chairman of the Central Electoral Commission, by Voldemar Koreshkov; place and date not given: "It's Full Steam Ahead"]

[Text] Candidate of Juridical Sciences A.V. Ivanchenko, deputy chairman of the Central Electoral Commission, answers ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA's questions.

[Koreshkov] Aleksandr Vladimirovich, the recent political events and the elections to the Federal Assembly have hit the Russian people like an avalanche. Can legislation and organizational work keep up with the great rush of events? You see, in many cases everything is being done, as they say, from scratch.

[Ivanchenko] On the subject of legislation, we have now gotten the necessary legislative basis to hold the elections. There is the Statute on the Election of Deputies to the State Duma. Then there is the Statute on the Election of Deputies to the Federation Council, and finally there is the Statute on a National Vote on the Draft of the New Constitution. These are the three basic documents that serve as a guide for everyone's actions.

The Central Electoral Commission has certain powers for independently adopting instructions and explanatory documents. We are at the moment preparing explanatory documents on the work of the mass media during the election period. We set ourselves the fairly serious aim of explaining the statutes themselves in detail. This is very necessary at the level of the district and precinct electoral commissions. A voter's calendar is coming out which takes into account all changes and indicates the calendar dates affecting the election campaign. In the next few days we will be ready to submit this calendar for publication in ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA together with a commentary on it.

[Koreshkov] Not only the Central Electoral Commission but its staff are taking on a heavy workload. What kind of resources and what kind of professional training does it have?

[Ivanchenko] As far as the Central Electoral Commission's staff is concerned, I will say at the outset that it is very small. We tried to take on people for our staff for whom elections are not new and who know the regions well. Several staffers from the previous Central Electoral Commission were also invited to join. The staff structure contains an organizational and methodological department that maintains direct contacts with the district electoral commissions and with federation voters' associations. The department of electoral arbitration and the preparation of legislation is an independent structure. It is no secret to anybody that there may be disputes and different interpretations of particular statutes and decisions. Of course, expert preparatory work will be required for conflicts that arise to be examined at Central Electoral Commission sessions.

We have a separate group of experts which will analyze our experience of applying legislation in practice and produce analytical surveys. The press service and the registration, records, and statistics sections are taking on heavy workloads.

[Koreshkov] Have you experience of conducting an election, Aleksandr Vladimirovich?

[Ivanchenko] The present election is not my first. I had the opportunity to take part in organizing and conducting the referendum on the preservation of the USSR, then later the all-Russia referendum on establishing the post of president, and the election of the first Russian Federation president. But now, I must say that much is being determined in a new way. At the same time, though, having previous experience is useful.

[Koreshkov] The preparations for the elections presupposes there being many different types of forms which the voters should know their way around properly...

[Ivanchenko] As far as the documentation is concerned, the Central Electoral Commission has already confirmed its necessary forms. These are primarily lists of voters: basic and additional lists, and supplementary lists to be appended to them. Then there are the forms for precinct and district commission returns, and the ID cards [uchetnyye kartochki] for candidates running for the position of deputy. Finally, there are the certificates of candidates' nominations and of deputies being elected to the State Duma and the Federal Assembly. Voters really do experience great difficulties finding their way around all that is involved in the elections. Therefore the mass media are called on to provide the maximum assistance and support to the voters. Especially when it comes to explanations of the procedures for voting using the federal lists of political parties and electoral blocs.

## More on Central Electoral Commission News Conference

*PM2710170593 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Oct 93 First Edition p 2*

[Aleksandra Lugovskaya report: "Central Electoral Commission Gives Out Details"]

[Text] N. Ryabov, chairman of the Central Electoral Commission, drew particular attention to important procedural details at a news conference at Russia's Press House on 26 October.

Only the version of the nomination slips approved by the president is legal. All others, including those "clipped" from newspapers, are invalid. The nomination slips are to be filled out on both sides and witnessed both by the collector himself and at the electoral commission.

Any citizen wishing to support candidates has the right to put his signature by "at least 10 voters' associations": He casts his actual vote on election day by secret ballot. The federation-wide list will be published in the press after 7 November; on the instructions of the Central Electoral Commission, internal affairs organs will verify the authenticity of the nomination slips.

In reply to a question on the possible falsification of the results of the poll and on the monitoring of the elections, it was said that the Central Electoral Commission does not intend during the elections "to rebuke" those who have committed offenses, but it will act in accordance with the powers vested in it. Specifically, an article of the Statute on Elections requires a sentence of two to three years' imprisonment as the "falsifiers'" administrative as well as criminal liability

## Industrialists Discuss Election Plans

*MK2710124093 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 27 Oct 93 p 3*

[Nikolay Podlipskiy report: "Meeting of Industrial Policy Council's Presidium: Industrialists Are Not Yet Ready for Elections"]

[Text] Representatives of the Russian industrial establishment will not be able to contest the December elections to the Federal Assembly as a single bloc. Their only chance is to try to nominate their candidates in one-mandate electoral districts. This conclusion can be drawn from the results of yesterday's meeting of the presidium of the government's Industrial Policy Council, which voiced its support for all reasonable candidates from any parties and said that it would bet on one-mandate districts as the main way to increase the industrialists' representation at the would-be parliament.

The first meeting upon approving the personal lineup of the presidium had three items on its agenda. Participants in the meeting approved in principle the idea of setting up the All-Russian Center of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs, whose functions will be similar to those of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry. In addition, a decision was made to launch preparations for an all-Russian conference of government members and heads of local administrations with industrialists and entrepreneurs. This meeting, which is to discuss the main provisions of the government program, is scheduled for 1 November. As soon as the presidium meeting was over, however, some government staffers were skeptical about the possibility of convening the conference on the established date.

The thing is that an expanded meeting of the Council of Ministers with a virtually identical agenda is scheduled for 2 November. This is why it is fairly likely that the industrialists will be unable to discuss their grievances with the government—for many of them the meeting will make no sense after the government program is approved by the "large" Council of Ministers meeting (the practice of submitting key government documents for broad discussion only after they are effectively adopted is fairly typical of any Council of Ministers regardless of its lineup).

Thus, representatives of state-owned enterprises and newly created joint-stock companies will see their possibilities to influence decisions that the government may make in the near future shrink substantially. In the longer run, their prospective clout will largely depend on the number of the industrial establishment's representatives in parliament. As yesterday's presidium meeting showed, however, its chiefs are unwilling (at least for the time being) to allow the Industrial Policy Council, which includes representatives of virtually all sectors of industry, to become a prototype for a political party. One possible explanation for this is that owing to fairly serious sectoral and personal differences and a lack of an indisputable leader, the industrialists will not be able to complete the stage of organizing their party with elections just around the corner.

Given this, Sergey Shakhray's participation in the work of the Industrial Policy Council appears fairly noteworthy. Attempts by his Party for Russian Unity and Accord to win over hitherto politically uncommitted industrial generals may suit both sides. The key points of Shakhray's electoral platform are perfectly in line with the views held by directors of Russia's large enterprises: Pledges to bolster Russia's statehood and to complement the policy of financial stabilization with a carefully designed structural and industrial policies can attract a significant number of voters in the country's industrial regions (for instance, Rem Vyakhirev, chairman of the board of "Gazprom," said that gas producers would give their backing to Sergey Shakhray).

The entirely justified skepticism, however, about Shakhray's words being seen as purely electoral assurances (which may just as well not materialize) makes industrialists set their sights on one- mandate districts, where they have a possibility to nominate independent candidates both to the State Duma and the Council of the Federation. Many of the possible contenders will find their way to the Duma blocked, however, by a provision barring those engaged in entrepreneurial activity from holding elected offices at the same time.

### Opposition Leaders: No Time To Reach Agreement

*MK2710145993 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 27 Oct 93 p 1*

[Olga Odintsova report under the "In Brief" rubric: "There Will Be No Single Opposition Bloc"]

[Text] "By taking part in the elections, we, as an opposition, will try to wage a civilized struggle against the current regime of Yeltsin," Ivan Fedoseyev, secretary of the former Constitutional Commission, said at a news conference held by leaders of the "Russian All-People's Union" [ROS] electoral bloc yesterday. ROS registered its electoral lists comprising 220 people on 25 October. Sergey Baburin, Nikolay Pavlov, and Svetlana Goryacheva head the lists. When asked whether a single electoral bloc of the opposition can be created, Nikolay Pavlov said that within so short a time and in conditions of psychological pressure, they would be unable to reach agreement among all the opposition parties and movements.

### Communists Predict Winning 22-28 Seats in State Duma

*LD2710114193 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1052 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yuriy Vdovin]

[Text] Moscow, 27 Oct—"The Communist Party of the Russian Federation will fight within a civilized framework for society's voluntary return to the path of socialist development." Gennadiy Zyuganov, leader of the Russian Communist Party, made this statement at a news conference today. His candidacy and that of cosmonaut Vitaliy Sevastyanov and PRAVDA journalist Viktor Ilyukhin are being put forward by the Russian Communist Party.

In Vitaliy Sevastyanov's view, "supporters of the Communist Party will gain 22-28 seats in the State Duma."

Participants in the meeting reported that "many commercial organizations are offering solid financial assistance, up to and including offers simply "to buy" votes. "We are categorically opposed to this," noted Gennadiy Zyuganov, "since we are confident of success."

The leader of the Russian Communist Party also said that an "appeal to communists, working people, and all patriots of Russia" was adopted at a party conference held on 26 October. It is to become a program document in the upcoming elections to the new parliament. It specifically proposes that reforms be carried out in three stages: first, resolving the issue of representative power; second, renouncing "shock therapy" and halting inflation; and third, drawing up a new Basic Law.

### Anticrime Panel Head Backs Ministers as Candidates

*PM2710172193 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 27 Oct 93 p 1*

[Report from the "Focus of Attention" column]

[Text] "Not to give ministers the right to participate in elections is, in effect, to discriminate against the individual, since universal suffrage implies that all citizens have an equal right to run for the supreme organs of power," Andrey Makarov, head of the interagency commission to combat crime and corruption, told an ITAR-TASS correspondent.

## Media Issues

### Poltoranin: Suspended Papers To Reappear Soon

*PM2710105193 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 27 Oct 93 p 1*

[Anri Vartanov report under the "Fourth Estate" rubric: "Mikhail Poltoranin: Bolshevik Methods Should Not Be Used"]

[Text] In a day or two all the papers closed after the mutiny, apart from the frankly fascist papers, will reappear, and the chief editors who were removed from their posts will again head their collectives. Mikhail Poltoranin, leader of the Federal Information Center, disclosed this in his speech at Monday's "roundtable" at the

"Moskva" international press center at the "Slavyanskaya" Hotel. He described the forcible suspension of these papers as a disgraceful fact and disclosed that the Russian Federation president has instructed the General Prosecutor's Office to look into this. So far, Mikhail Poltoranin admitted, we have been unable to find out precisely who is to blame for the introduction of censorship. In his opinion, this was done at the level of the leadership of the government, which was afraid that the truth about the power structures' sluggishness during the mutiny would reach the people via the press. But the draft of the edict on censorship, the Federal Information Center leader said, was in existence a week before the mutiny: "I learned of it by chance and tried to do everything to delay it."

This lack of coordination in actions on matters concerning the press was possible because several high officials at once deal with the press: In addition to the leadership of the Federal Information Center and the Press Ministry, there is a third party—the government head's press secretary, who has been elevated to ministerial rank. All decisions now go through various channels, and as a result there is much confusion.

Mikhail Poltoranin resolutely took issue with one Western journalist who described the current Council of Ministers as "Yeltsin's government." In his view, the president and his entourage cannot now be identified with the government. As far as press questions are concerned, he, Mikhail Poltoranin, represents the president and Press and Information Minister Vladimir Shumeyko represents the government. In this connection the Federal Information Center leader was sharply critical of the government's actions: Now that it has lost a powerful opposition and feels that it is free, in his view, it is trying to use bolshevik methods. "But we will not allow them to do this," M. Poltoranin assured his audience. He believes that in principle there should be no parliamentary or government newspapers, and therefore ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI and ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA should be allowed to go their own way from 1 January 1994. The main lever for the democratization of the press, in his view, is flotation, privatization, and independence from any official bodies: After all, 90 percent of the papers published in the country (mostly local papers) adhered to an antipresidential, antireform course precisely because they were organizationally and financially dependent on the soviets. The democratic authorities must not treat the press in the same way.

## Shumeyko Criticizes Poltoranin Remarks on Censorship

*LD2710213893 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1731 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature]

[Text] Russian First Vice-Premier Vladimir Shumeyko refuted the statement of Director of the Federal Information Center, Mikhail Poltoranin that the decision on the censorship and the closing of a number of newspapers during the state of emergency had been adopted by the government. At a press conference on Wednesday [27 October] Shumeyko said: "It is up to you and to Poltoranin to decide what there is more of in the words of the Federal Information Center's director - truth or lies."

The first vice-premier emphasized that the decision on restraining freedom of the media had been imposed by the presidential decree of October 4. However, according to Shumeyko, censorship was not imposed due to the fact that the situation in Moscow has stabilized to a certain extent.

The first vice-premier stated that Poltoranin had known about the decisions. Shumeyko sees the motivation for this statement in Poltoranin's intention to create an image of the president's enemy from the government. In this connection he remarked that "neither Poltoranin nor anyone else would succeed in forcing a wedge between the president and the government."

On the closing of the newspapers "PRAVDA" and "SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA" Shumeyko said that "nobody had closed" the newspapers, only their editors-in-chief guilty of direct calls for overthrowing the legitimate state power had been discharged.

Shumeyko announced that a provision on media during the election campaign period had been worked out. The document's draft says that all candidates to the future parliaments will be given a chance to speak on the television three weeks before the announced date of the elections "an hour in the morning and an hour in the evening."

On active participation in the election campaign of the government's members the first vice-premier remarked that about 30 members of the cabinet could be in the new parliament. However, in his opinion "not more than 5-10 persons out of them will be elected."

Shumeyko announced that he himself was not going to run for the elections to the State Duma. However, he did not exclude his participation in the elections to the Federation Council.

Answering on the questions Shumeyko expressed his opinion that the opposition forces had rather a big chance for success in the pre-election struggle. According to the first vice-premier, the bloc of the communist organizations with the agrarians could become a real political force.

## Kostikov 'Attacked' Government Resolution on Media

*LD2710213093 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1705 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[By Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from the "Presidential Bulletin" feature]

[Text] First Deputy Prime Minister Vladimir Shumeyko has denied the recent statement from Chief of the Federal Information Center Mikhail Poltoranin accusing the government of having ordered a news blackout and closure of a number of newspapers during the state of emergency in Moscow. "It is up to you and Poltoranin to decide if his statement is a case of lying or immorality," Shumeyko told reporters on Wednesday [27 October].

He said the clampdown on the press followed the president's decree of October 4th though no censorship as such was introduced because the situation in Moscow had somewhat settled down.

The official said that Poltoranin was in the know on what had happened and was now trying to turn the government into Yeltsin's new enemy. "Neither Poltoranin nor anyone else will be able to drive in a wedge between the president and the government," Shumeyko said.

In the meantime, Presidential Press Secretary Vyacheslav Kostikov attacked a government resolution to place the former parliament's electronic media under the Cabinet of Ministers.

The electronic mass media is being concentrated in the hands of the information service of only one branch of government which is being raised to the rank of a parallel ministry with a new minister in charge, Kostikov said in a statement on Wednesday. He says the resolution will strengthen the trend towards a government monopoly over information and the drive to impose a "departmental interpretation of what is happening on the public."

Kostikov said the government had succeeded in creating its own "propaganda ministry" something the former parliament and Ruslan Khasbulatov had failed to do in the face of democratic opposition.

He expressed the regret that the needs of Russian television, "which owns the property and which stood up in defense of democracy" in the days of the parliamentary revolt, had been neglected.

Kostikov said the Russian president was worried over a newly-emerging monopolistic trend in the mass media which could be damaging to the country's and government's democratic image. Yeltsin is very anxious that such a decision should be taken at a time when different parties must have equal access to the mass media, in the run up to December elections, he said.

The president believes that now that the parliamentary revolt was crushed, further reform must be accompanied by greater freedom of speech and the higher financial standing of the mass media, rather than censorship or distribution of the sources of information among various departments, Kostikov said.

In a follow-up interview with INTERFAX, Kostikov said the creation of a parallel information ministry and its attempts to muzzle freedom of speech had prompted widespread negative response from the mass media of all leanings. He spoke of a string of grievances being placed both with the president's press service and the administration itself, which is also worried at the prospect of a new-style propaganda ministry being set up. Kostikov is confident that the democratic forces will gather strength to rebuff any attempt to try to monopolize the mass media no matter where it comes from.

### NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA on 'Assault' on Independence

*MK2710142593 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 27 Oct 93 p 1*

["NG"-report under the "Way of Life" rubric: "No Victory Without Struggle. Re-registration of NEZAVISIMAYA Drags On—and One Knows Why"]

[Text] To begin with, we would like to thank everybody who has showed concern these days over the future of NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA [NG] and over support for its independent stance. The first assault on our independence has been beaten back, but we have trustworthy information that this will not be the end of it.

It has been 10 days since we applied for re-registration to the Ministry of the Press, and there is still no answer. This, despite the fact that they said at the ministry when the papers were submitted: We will look into it with maximum speed. We, of course, did not hope to be re-registered as fast as KURANTY (in three days), whose former founder was Mossovet. Why is the speed different in different cases?

We know that each issue of NG is scrutinized under the political microscope for something that may indicate a change in the newspaper's course, or something that would provide a "clean" chance not to re-register it.

In the meantime, the search continues for variants of attaching the newspaper to a "loyal" founder or of dismissing the current chief editor. There is still time for that—a whole 20 days (the law allows one month for re-registration).

But this is not all. Secret instructions have been issued to local post offices to obstruct subscription to NG in every way. At some post offices subscribers are told that NG has been banned and that no subscription to it can be taken out. In others information on subscribing to NG is being concealed: the abridged version of the catalogue of the IZVESTIYA publishers, who do the subscribing, does not list NG, while the subscriber can get the complete catalogue from the boss (after a scandal)—but it does not mention the price of NG subscription (in Moscow it is 4,137 rubles) which serves as the reason for not accepting subscription money (for example, at post office No. 65 in Moscow at 11 Ussuriyskaya St., Building 1).

We are familiar with all that. This is precisely how the same services acted against NG in 1991-1992. Fighting against this by legal methods is impossible. We do not have the money to give bribes, and we are not very eager to give them.

It is hard to make us wonder at anything. Whereas Mr. Poltoranin states that neither the president nor himself know who issued the directive introducing censorship, they can only be sympathized with—all journalistic Moscow knows that. One can, for example, go and ask censors who performed the corresponding functions—their lists are at the Press Ministry. One can ask directors of Moscow's newspaper publishing houses, whose men instructed them to stop printing uncensored newspapers.

NG is not going to give up, even realizing very well that it cannot count on solidarity of even all colleagues, because there are some who, for different reasons (not only political) dream of scuttling NEZAVISIMAYA. This gives us a healthy fervor to fight back. If you recall the old adage: "It is better to die standing that to live on one's knees."

We are together with those who do not experience fear despite everything.

### TV Director Details Coverage of Election Campaign

*MK2710143593 Moscow MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI in Russian No. 44, 31 Oct 93 (signed to press 26 Oct) p C13*

[Interview with Anatoliy Lysenko, general director of the Russian Television Company, by Yuriy Bogomolov: "Everyone Will Be Discontented With TV's Performance"; place and date not given]

[Text] The pre-election race has already started, while the state TV companies are just beginning to think which rules should be used in covering it. This involves an entire complex of problems about which MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI's correspondent talks with RTV General Director Anatoliy Lysenko.

[Lysenko] First of all, we must deal with the problem of official information. That is to say, with the declarations by deputy candidates and representatives of parties or blocs. A certain time on the airwaves will be set aside for that. The Central Electoral Committee [Tsentrizbirkom], in my opinion, is obliged to decide how to divide it among the blocs and parties. Regional deputies may use the services of regional TV. For our part we should air only blocs and parties—otherwise we will just not be able to cope. The main difficultly is how much time to allot to each side.

The law envisions that the time be divided equally, which in my opinion is wrong. After all, the parties are not equal in terms of their composition and influence in society. There are two methods of addressing this question. First, to divide it according to the size of the parties. Second, in proportion to the number of votes they received in the previous elections. Both rules in our conditions are practically unapplicable.

[Bogomolov] Do you envision the company's role as purely executive?

[Lysenko] Primarily. We ensure the main technical provision for the propaganda campaign that will be conducted by parties and blocs. We are not going to be concerned with the content of the programs themselves. If filming is necessary, all right. A director is needed, here he is. If they want advice, they are welcome to it. All of this free. As for the content of the program, its image, design, and style—this is the business of a particular party.

[Bogomolov] But with this artistic asceticism the TV company may run into ethical and, of course, legal problems. How will you react to statements that are offensive to the opponents, in which election contests are so rich?

[Lysenko] Here too we rely on Tsentrizbirkom's mediation. Its representatives will be taking part in broadcasts directly and they may stop the participants if they violate the rules.

[Bogomolov] This sort of intervention will be conducted on live programs?

[Lysenko] It certainly will. We will be trying to air all election statements only live, so that there are no suspicions that the company is interfering with the content of the programs.

[Bogomolov] Such a form of "participation-nonparticipation" in elections on the part of the TV company is the least troublesome for the leadership. But it poses a certain inconvenience for the voters, who will be treated to a number of declarations without any professional analysis.

[Lysenko] We have thought about this. There is a plan to organize a roundtable. Rather, this plan belongs to KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA: to get together representatives of the main blocs and organize a discussion on the topical questions of politics, economics, and social life.... And we would like to confine ourselves only to the role of a transmitter. A different level of involvement in this discussion is very dangerous what with the mistrust for state TV that has accumulated in society today.

[Bogomolov] No matter how you might try to demonstrate your neutrality, you will provide much cause for complaint from one side or another, in any event.

[Lysenko] This is a problem. We live in a crazy politicized world, where everybody—from housewives to clowns—are major experts on ways of rebuilding Russia. Therefore, much care will have to be taken to make sure that the propaganda effect in non-propaganda programs is reduced to a minimum.

In "Vesti" we intend to provide information about party meetings, but not their programs as such. And even here I can anticipate competing parties watching with a stopwatch in hand how long particular footage has lasted. We too will have to use stopwatches.

[Bogomolov] The "presumption of innocence" does not extend to state TV: from the start you are suspected of pro-government sympathies. What would you say to that?

[Lysenko] We can only confirm these suspicions. But professional dignity is above everything else. We sympathize with the government and we wish it victory but only in a fair struggle, the conditions for which we will try to provide to the fullest possible extent. Although we understand: No matter how the elections might end, everyone will remain discontented with TV's work.

## FIC Reportedly Wants NTV Off Air

*MK2710094593 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 27 Oct 93 p 2*

[Unattributed report under the "In Brief" column]

[Text] Moscow—The NTV independent television company, which first went on the air on Channel 5 two weeks ago, is likely to be denied access to the airwaves. It has been learned from well-informed sources that the chiefs of the "Petersburg Channel 5" television company are being pressured by the Federal Information Center [FIC], which insistently recommends to the channel's director, Bella Kurkova, to end the agreement with NTV on the leasing of air time. The agreement NTV signed with chiefs of the St. Petersburg company on 16 September provides for leasing air time for one year.

## TV Official Defends Measures Taken During Attack of TV Center

*PM2710125393 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 23 Oct 93 p 3*

[Interview with Stanislav Bunevich, deputy chairman of the All-Russia Television and Radio Company and director of technical management, by Aleksandr Pavlov under the "Russian Television Review" rubric; place and date not given: "Stanislav Bunevich: Even If Rebels Had Seized the Television Center They Would Not Have Been Able To Broadcast"]

[Text] It is difficult to forget those three hours on the evening of 3 October when an announcement appeared above Russian TV's logo that broadcasting from Ostankino had been interrupted by an armed mob which had burst into the television center building. But could Russian television have been "sidelined"? Stanislav Bunevich, deputy chairman of the All-Russia Television and Radio Company and director of technical management, is convinced the answer is "no."

[Pavlov] Stanislav Dmitriyevich, tell us what the All-Russia Television and Radio Company leadership did at that moment?

[Bunevich] As soon as it happened, I contacted the Russian minister of communications and asked for the technical systems broadcasting Ostankino's programs to be switched over to receive the programs of Russian Television and Radio Rossii. For the sake of speed I asked him for the authority to manage this switchover. On the minister's instruction such authority was granted and no one was able to appear on air without my knowledge. Essentially we commanded the country's news provision at that time. I should note that the communications personnel collaborated with us very efficiently.

But the situation remained unclear and it was impossible to guarantee the security of our studio at 5 Yamskaya Street. Appropriate instructions were therefore issued to the leadership of the television and radio complex at Shabalovka, and, if it were impossible to broadcast from Yamskaya Street, we would switch over to broadcasting from there without the viewers noticing. There was also an accord with the leadership of St. Petersburg Channel 5, and it too could have "taken over." Moreover, we considered with the appropriate structures the possibility of working from two facilities in the greater Moscow region. A creative group was formed, and it was only necessary to choose which of the facilities was quicker and more convenient to get to. But that was still not all: A mobile television station capable of broadcasting independently was ready and waiting to go into operation.

[Pavlov] But could it have happened that RTV [Russian Television] might have been made, say, by force to transmit the rebels' information?

[Bunevich] It could not. As early as 1700 hours approximately the chairman of the company ordered that measures be taken to prevent this. Special codes and so forth were elaborated (let's not go into the details). Even if the rebels had seized the television company building, they would have been unable to broadcast: Everything would seem to be working, the equipment operating, the lights turning on, but that's all. Even specialist television engineers would have been unable to do anything.

It remains to be added that by virtue of the authority granted us no one could have cut off Russian Television or put their own information out on it without our sanction. In short, normal professional work proceeded in conditions that were not at all normal.

[Pavlov] Stanislav Dmitriyevich, one more topic for discussion. You hear people saying that CNN was able to organize live broadcasting from the scene of events while our television failed...

[Bunevich] In principle, we could have done so had we found the appropriate equipment. But do understand that fighting in the center of the capital, blood, dead and wounded is not a spectacle which needs to be broadcast in widescreen technicolor, putting journalists' lives on the line and aggravating tension which was already quite sufficient. That is how I see it. But once CNN offered to let us relay it, we decided not to refuse.

[Pavlov] However, the technical potential of the leading foreign television companies is, I think, superior to the Russian. Or am I wrong?

[Bunevich] In general there is a gap, but it is not a large one, and, given appropriate finance, we would quickly bridge it. The point is that the All-Russia Television and Radio Company was initially created as a flexible structure capable of responding quickly to technical breakthroughs. It is impossible to describe everything that is being done in this area and I will confine myself to a few examples. For instance, our staffers' level of computer literacy is already pretty high today. We have begun using mobile phones to relay up-to-the-minute information. Computer technology is extensively used in the preparation of radio news programs. This has allowed us to abandon tape recorders, editing scissors, and other "traditions." Next year it is planned to switch to computer editing of VESTI on video, which gives us the opportunity to prepare broadcasts in an instant. We are the first and only people in the country switching to this system. Such an approach enables our company to be a highly compact outfit rather than turning into a leviathan.

## Regional Affaris

### Sverdlovsk Regional Council Proclaims Ural Republic

*LD2710214193 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1731 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] The Sverdlovsk Regional Soviet adopted the Constitution of the Ural Republic Wednesday and made it go into effect immediately.

In accordance with this document, the Ural Republic will be a constituent part of the Russian Federation having the status of a republic incorporated in the federation. It will be a lawful, democratic, socially-oriented, secular state with a republican form of government. The republic will have all the rights specified by the Russian Constitution for republics incorporated in the federation and federal legislation, aside from its pieces suspended by the republic's authorities or courts, will apply throughout the republic.

"We are all rallying behind the idea of a Ural Republic as a tool to build a united Russian state," Governor Eduard Rossel said.

The regional Soviet called on the Constitutional Conference to include the Ural Republic in the list of republics incorporated in the Russian Federation.

October 27th has been declared the day of the Ural Republic.

Governor Rossel described the republic's structure as "semi- presidential" in an INTERFAX interview. The republic will be headed by an elected governor, the present governor acting in a provisional capacity, and its supreme legislature will be a legislative assembly which will be elected December 12. The republic's government will be nominated by the governor and approved by the legislative assembly.

In the run up to the elections the Sverdlovsk Regional Soviet will act as the lower house of the legislative assembly and the Inner Council of the Soviet, as the upper chamber.

### Yeltsin Spokesman Denounces Vote

*LD2710224293 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2153 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[By ITAR-TASS correpondent Viktor Troyanovskiy]

[Text] Moscow October 28 TASS—"The decision to transform the Sverdlovsk region into the Ural Republic, which was passed by the regional council on Wednesday, has proved once again to the irresponsibility of these obsolescent power bodies, their political ambitiousness and lack of any prospect for them". Nikolay Medvedev, head of the presidential staff's department for affairs of territories, said in an exlusive interview with TASS, commenting on what happened in Yekaterinburg yesterday. He recalled that the regional council had adopted the constitution of the Ural Republic and applied to the constitutional convention with a request to regard the Ural Republic as the 22nd component republic of the Russian Federation. The regional council also called elections to the republic's legislative assembly for december 12. The assembly is expected to consist of two chambers, the republican Duma and the House of Representatives.

"The first decision of the regional council may be qualified as defiance of the presidential decrees on stage-by-stage constitutional reform". Medvedev noted. "Subjects of the federation have clear-cut functions. Under the present constitution, regional councils are not entitled to tackle problems of national-territorial set-up. This decision complies neither with the existing constitution, nor even with the draft of a new constitution to be discussed tomorrow by the constitutional convention. A region can have only a charter, not a constitution", he stressed.

As for the legislative assembly with two chambers, the presidential official sees neither legal nor political sense in such an approach. None of the component republics of the Russian Federation has a two-chamber parliament. Commenting on the appeal to the constitutional convention, Medvedev noted that was not a legitimate body. The fate of the new constitution is to be determined by a referendum or a fresh Russian parliament to be shortly elected.

"By all these actions, the regional council exceeded its powers clearly set in the federative treaty and the Russian constitution", the official stated.

Medvedev expects these decisions to provoke quite a resolute response from the presidential staff. "We will prepare recommendations and our proposals on the matter. One of the possible ways out of the current situation is to call to account the irresponsible leaders of the council. This council is quite likely to be dissolved, while its officials should be held personally responsible for their actions", Medvedev said in conclusion.

## Yeltsin Dismisses Head of Bryansk Administration

*LD2810102393 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0807 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Moscow, 28 Oct (ITAR-TASS)—The press service of the Russian Federation president has reported that on Wednesday Russian President Boris Yeltsin dismissed by edict Anatoliy Vokhrushenkov from the post of head of the Bryansk town administration.

The edict was signed at the recommendation of the acting head of the Bryansk oblast administration. A. Vokhrushenkov committed actions intended to ensure that the president's decree of 21 September 1993, No. 1400 "On Stage-by-Stage Constitutional Reform in the Russian Federation" was not implemented.

## Yeltsin Edict Approves Moscow Government Reforms

*PM2710113493 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 27 Oct 93 First Edition p 4*

["Edict of the President of the Russian Federation on Support for Measures by the Government of Moscow and Moscow Oblast Soviet of People's Deputies To Reform the Organs of State Power and Organs of Local Self-Government in Moscow City and Moscow Oblast;" No. 1738, issued in Moscow on 24 October]

[Text] In connection with appeals to the president of the Russian Federation by Yu.M. Luzhkov, mayor of Moscow, and V.N. Klimenko, chairman of Moscow Oblast Soviet of People's Deputies, with a view to the speediest stabilization of the political situation in the region of the capital, and also in the light of public interest in regional legislation in the sphere of state building and the absence of specimen statutes on the formation and organization of power at local level, I decree:

1. That approval is granted to the basic principles of the formation and organization of the work of the representative organ of state power in Moscow City and its cooperation with Moscow City's executive organs of power for the transitional period, laid down in the documents appended to the present Edict, namely the Statute on Elections to Moscow City Duma on 12 December 1993 (appendix No. 1) and the Provisional Statute on the System of Organs of State Power in Moscow City (appendix No. 2), submitted in accordance with Point 4 of Edict No. 1594 of the President of the Russian Federation, 7 October 1993, "On Terminating the Powers of Moscow City Soviet of People's Deputies, Zelenograd City Soviet of People's Deputies, Rayon Soviets of People's Deputies, and Settlement and Rural Soviets of People's Deputies in Moscow City."

2. That approval is granted to the basic principles of the formation and organization of the work of the representative organ of state power in Moscow Oblast, and in addition, experimentally, of the organs of local self-government in Moscow Oblast for the transitional period, laid down in the documents appended to the present Edict, namely the Statute on Elections to Moscow Oblast Duma on 12 December 1993 (appendix No. 3), the Provisional Statute on Moscow Oblast Duma (appendix No. 4), and the Provisional Statute on Local State Administration and Local Self-Government in Moscow Oblast (appendix No. 5).

3. That it be noted that elections of new representative organs of state power in Moscow City and Moscow Oblast will be held on 12 December 1993.

4. That the representative and executive organs of state power of the components of the Russian Federation be recommended to take into account the practical approaches contained in the appendixes to the present Edict concerning the legal formulation of the basic principles of the organization of state power in components of the Russian Federation, as well as the principles of the system of local self-government.

5. The present Edict enters into force from the moment of publication.

President of the Russian Federation

B. Yeltsin Moscow, Kremlin 24 October 1993 No. 1738

## Murmansk Political Unrest Reported

*PM2710165593 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Oct 93 p 3*

[Report by Vladimir Gundarov: "Bets Placed, Resignations Inevitable"]

[Text] The political "clouds" are equally lowering in the center and in outlying regions. But the further they are from the epicenter of the storm, the quieter the thunderclaps. Nonetheless a storm erupted at a session of the Murmansk Oblast Soviet, which on 23 September discussed the Russian Federation president's decree no. 1400. Many fiery words were uttered in the president's defense but even more "in defense of the Constitution." The session decided to deem both the edict and the Supreme Soviet decisions connected with it invalid on the territory of Murmansk Oblast.

The next day the group of deputies which had voted against the decision adopted by the majority sent the Kremlin a telegram expressing support for the president and Yevgeniy Komarov, head of the Murmansk Oblast administration, who at that moment was still an oblast soviet deputy, protested the session decision.

Throughout all the dramatic events the Northern Fleet lived its normal life. Former political workers, taught by bitter experience, did not rush to remove the president's portraits in the offices and leisure rooms as happened in August 1991. The fleet was reliably isolated from politics by the barracks windows, the hulls of the ships, and the checkpoint barriers.

But the example of armed resistance in Moscow was infectious. On 28 September registration to the people's militia for the defense of the Constitution began in the conference hall of the oblast trade unions council. Previously a detachment of 20 men had been formed by the oblast "Officers Union" organization headed by Yevgeniy Bondarenko. The specter of civil war appeared on the Murmansk streets. Meanwhile outwardly life had not changed and the hottest heads sobered up after the bloody Sunday in Moscow.

On 10 October a decree of the administration head halted the activity of the oblast soviet and two city rayon soviets and all rural and settlement soviets on the oblast's territory. Yevgeniy Komarov gave instructions to the administration heads of the cities of oblast subordination to make similar decisions with regard to those cities' city soviets. The chairmen of the disbanded soviets are so far protesting the administration heads' actions at the prosecutor's office but it seems that the days of soviet power on the Kola peninsula are already numbered.

The show of strong power in the center had another consequence—the prevention of the transformation of Murmansk Oblast into the Kola Republic, similar to the one which existed in 1918. Of course, no one in the oblast seriously thought or is thinking of creating a really independent state. Its emergence would not suit its Western neighbors. The main aim of raising its status lies elsewhere—reducing the deduction of taxes into the federal budget and using the funds left in the oblast to resolve local economic problems. In other words, 75 years later there could be a repetition of the situation of which Murmansk Soviet Chairman A. Yuryev wrote in 1918: "The central bolshevik government by its actions is simply pushing us toward breaking with it and even perhaps proclaiming an independent republic in the kray."

But we cannot yet say that the situation in the region has finally been stabilized.

## 'Fraud' Discovered in Petersburg Election Campaign

*PM2810115793 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Oct 93 First Edition p 2*

[Vladimir Nevelskiy report: "First Instance of Fraud Discovered in Election Campaign"]

[Text] About 4,000 signatures have to be collected in St. Petersburg in order to register a candidate for the State Duma in single-seat districts. The campaign to collect them has only just begun and the first instance of fraud has been discovered.

Signature-collection lists appeared at one of the city's higher education establishments, to which the text of an appeal to City Hall demanding the immediate examination of the question of increasing grants had been attached with a paper clip.

Many people proved willing to back this demand. The collection of signatures was in full swing. But a scandal broke out when one of the students noticed a small-print note at the very bottom of the appeal: "I hereby witness this nomination slip...", "Plenipotentiary representative of electoral association..."

It looks as if some group of enterprising people have decided that all means are acceptable during the election campaign. (endall) 27 oct ar/zolas/ks 28/1219z oct WC 164

## Chernomyrdin Visits Kaliningrad Space Center

*PM2710111393 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2000 GMT 22 Oct 93*

[Video report by S. Milyanchikov and S. Cherkasov; from the "Vesti" program]

[Text] [video shows Chernomyrdin inspecting Energiya Science and Production Association] It appears that relatively stable, if not prosperous, times are in prospect for the Russian aerospace complex.

Viktor Chernomyrdin's visit today to Kaliningrad, the Russian space program center where the Energiya Science and Production Association and the Flight Control Center are located, put an end to the debate as to whether Russia needs a space program. Answering journalists' questions, he noted:

[Begin Chernomyrdin recording] Everything that we are making here, everything that we are working on here where Russia's best minds are concentrated, must fly. [end recording]

The government will provide substantial support for the national aerospace complex to ensure that the high level of science and technology, which was built up here over the years, is not lost. The Russian premier was able to see it for himself. Within the framework of conversion, Energiya Science and Production Association has also started producing consumer goods, which, so far, are not inferior to similar foreign goods.

In the evening Viktor Chernomyrdin visited the Flight Control Center where he had a communication session with the cosmonauts working in orbit. [video shows interior of Energiya Association production facilities, brief shot of flight control center]

## Kabardin Parliament Reform; Kabardin-Kalmykia Treaty

*MK2710100593 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 27 Oct 93 p 3*

[Igor Terekhov report under the "Kabardino-Balkaria" rubric: "Parliament Reform Draft Being Discussed. Ilyumzhinov Meets With Kokov"]

[Text] The Kabardin-Balkar Republic (KBR) Supreme Soviet session was unable to pass draft laws on reforming the republic's parliament. Formed 10 days ago on the basis of parity out of representatives of the executive and legislative branches, the working group submitted for the consideration of the deputies laws on the KBR parliament and the election of deputies to it.

In accordance with this document, the future parliament should work on a professional basis, consist of 41 deputies, and be elected for a four-year term. The nationalities question in the one-chamber parliament shall be the responsibility of a committee on interethnic relations consisting of deputies of the Kabardin, Balkar, and Russian nationalities in equal quotas. It is proposed to hold elections for a new parliament in accordance with the majority system, and in one-candidate districts. The deputies agreed with all these things with minor reservations. The questions of the structural setup for the future parliament proved to be an insuperable obstacle for the present body of deputies. Many deputies spoke for a bicameral parliament with a nationalities chamber. This obliged Khachim Karmokov, chairman of the KBR Supreme Soviet, to cut the discussion short and to transfer the powers of reforming the republic's parliament to the KBR president.

Meanwhile, a treaty on friendship and economic and cultural cooperation between Kabardino-Balkaria and Kalmykia was signed on 26 October.

On the part of the KBR, the treaty was signed by republic President Valeriy Kokov; Khachim Karmokov, chairman of the KBR Supreme Soviet; and Georgiy Cherkesov, chairman of the republic's cabinet. On Kalmykia's part it was signed by President Kirsan Ilyumzhinov and Parliament Chairman Konstantin Maksimov. Speaking in a press conference after the signing ceremony, Kalmykia President Ilyumzhinov said that he had sent a request to the Association of Social and Economic Cooperation of Republics, Krays, and Oblasts of the North Caucasus to admit Kalmykia as a permanent member thereof. Speaking at the press conference both leaders leveled sharp criticism of the statement made by Sergey Filatov, the Russian president's chief of staff, at a Constitutional Conference session to the effect that it is necessary to even out the rights of Russian Federation components. Kokov and Ilyumzhinov believe such a stance leading to Russia's de-federalization and is not going to help the stabilization of political processes in the Russian Federation.

## Tambov Governor Abolishes Recalcitrant Soviet

*PM2710190193 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 26 Oct 93 p 2*

[Unattributed report from the "Monitoring" roundup: "Regions"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Tambov Oblast Administration Head V. Babenko has adopted a decree dissolving the oblast soviet of people's deputies. The oblast administration head had repeatedly appealed to the people's deputies to disband themselves. The proposal was ignored. Over the past two years the oblast soviet has been noted for its conservatism, and edicts by the president, the government, and the administration head have been ignored.

## Mordovian Soviets Ignor Edict on Dissolution

*LD2710233893 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2000 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Report over video by correspondent N. Vechkayev; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] The Nakhodka city, Yaroslavl oblast, and Krasnodar city soviets ceased their existence today. However, not all local organs of government have proved to be so obedient.

[Vechkayev] After the tragic events in Moscow not a single rayon or city soviet of the Mordovian Republic has dissolved itself. All of them as it were waited for the decree of Russia's President Boris Yeltsin. True, there were attempts by the deputies of some soviets to dissolve themselves, but as happens frequently, they were inquorate. Self-dissolution was also discussed at the session of Mordovia's Supreme Soviet. However, things did not go further than just talk. The reason for this was the same: Those wishing to remain in the soviets turned out to be much in the majority. And perhaps, for the time being, they are also waiting for the next decree of the Russian president. [video shows Mordovian Supreme Soviet session in progress]

## Maritime Kray Head Announces Council's Disbanding

*LD2810071693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0658 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yuriy Grachev]

[Text] Vladivostok October 28 TASS—Administration head of the Maritime territory Yevgeniy Nazdratenko took a decision on Thursday, disbanding the territorial council and read it out to deputies who gathered for an emergency meeting.

Explaining his decision, the governor said that it was taken in compliance with the Russian president's decree on discontinuing the operation of regional (territorial) councils if deputies gathering for a session do not have a required quorum. In this particular case, the council was short of 25 votes to hold a session.

Nazdratenko also gave orders to take all documentation on current affairs from former bodies of representative power and hand it over to appropriate sections of the territorial administration.

### Tyumen Oblast Soviet Holds Session

*OW2810114793 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel and Orbita Networks in Russian 1945 GMT 21 Oct 93*

[T. Astafyeva video report; from the "Utro" program]

[Text] A week ago, a report appeared in the media stating that the Tyumen Oblast Soviet deputies had adopted a decision to abolish themselves. In truth, normal preparations were underway for the second stage of the 12th session, and the session took place as scheduled. [video shows deputies at the session] However, the session did not last long—only one day—and the agenda carried unusually few topics. Some of them involved the deputies' activities prior to the October events. On 25 September, the deputies adopted a decision on the inapplicability to the oblast territory of the president's edict on stage-by-stage constitutional reform of the Russian Federation. The session repealed the decision after accepting a protest by Leonid Raketskiy, head of Tyumen Oblast administration. The deputies then agreed that the situation in Russia had changed drastically, and that reform of organs of representative power was imperative. Several versions of oblast system reorganization were proposed, but only one was adopted: to carry out early elections simultaneously with elections for federal legislative organs. The report on work of the Oblast Soviet of People's Deputies, delivered by Chairman Vladimir Ulyanov, ended unexpectedly. Vladimir Ilyich asked to be released from his post. The deputies refused to accept the resignation and decided that this would not be the last time they would gather in this hall.

### Stavropol Opposition Bloc Seen Seizing Poll Initiative

*PM2710180193 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Oct 93 First Edition p 1*

[Nikolay Gritchin report: "Opposition Moves From Boycott to Active Participation in Elections"]

[Text] Stavropol—As the deadline for collecting signatures in support of Federal Assembly candidates approaches, the stances of provincial organizations, parties, and movements are becoming increasingly explicit. In recent days, the opposition has defined its position clearly.

The tactic of boycotting the forthcoming elections has been rejected, and three party lists—from the agrarian bloc, the Socialist Party of the Working People, and the Russian Federation Communist Party—have already been compiled, as well as candidacies for the single-seat districts. Local communist leaders, the aktiv of the soviets, figure in them all. All nominees are backed by the "People's Power" ["Narodovlastiye"] bloc, uniting the aforementioned parties.

After the tragic October events in Moscow, this bloc revealed losses in its ranks: For ideological reasons, having condemned calls by "People's Power" for strikes, for a boycott of grain deliveries to the capital, and other such actions which played into the hands of the putschists, the Stavropol Youth Union left the "communist alliance," deciding, despite its small numbers, to participate autonomously in the imminent elections for the kray duma. This separation broke the fine thread of the "generation link" which was a point of pride for the bloc's leaders. The pensioner and veteran bias of "People's Power" became obvious. But they are extremely active.

As announced at the bloc's headquarters, it is reckoned here that the 5,000 signatures needed to support candidacies for single-seat districts will be collected within the space of a week, that is, by next Friday. The communists anticipate success for at least three of their four "majority" candidates.

Unlike "People's Power," the kray's democrats—who, in the prevailing situation, received as it were an advantage in the form of the right to set about collecting signatures in good time—are behaving like a student who leaves his revision until the night before the exam. Either the expectation of effortlessly becoming duma deputies on the "Russia's Choice" ticket has cooled their ardor, or they have lost their activists, and it is not done for them themselves, given the current portfolios within the structures of the executive authority, to go from house to house with the nomination sheets.... But the fact remains: In Stavropol, "Russia's Choice" has yet to have the blank nomination sheets printed, while "People's Power" is already avidly totting up the number of votes gathered.

### Fuel, Oil May Not Reach Kurils in Time for Winter

*LD2710121093 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 0600 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The summer navigation season to the Kuril islands has come to an end. The sailors of the Far East and Sakhalin maritime shipping lines have done everything they could so that the residents of these remote Russian islands have adequate winter stocks of food, essentials, and hard fuel.

Unfortunately, not everything is up to the seamen: the question of delivering fuel and lubricants and liquid fuel for the electric power stations serving the island settlements has not been tackled once throughout the entire navigation season; billions were needed for this. High officials in the oblast center and Moscow alike did promise these billions, but it remained a promise.

The people of the Kurils had to turn to the Japanese Government and the U.S. President for help.

Toward the end of the navigation season, the generous neighbors from the country of the rising sun purchased a tanker-load of fuel in Russia and gave it to the people of South Kurils.

Our very own Russian Government—apparently embarrased—suddenly remembered its promise and set aside a billion rubles recently and at a high interest rate to ensure that the Kurils have fuel and lubricants—but the navigation season had, alas, come to an end.

Any extension of the navigation season and the islanders' winter heat and lighting are now up to the seamen who, not without risks, now have to deliver the fuel to the islands.

## Major Oil Find in Barents Sea To Be Developed

*PM2710185593 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 26 Oct 93 p 1*

[ITAR-TASS/INTERFAX report under the general heading "News in Brief"]

[Text] A powerful gusher has been obtained on Russia's oil and gas bearing shelf in the Barents Sea at a depth of 2,410 meters. The estimated oil reserves are 75 million tonnes. The Russian "Rosshelf" Joint-Stock Company has received a licence to develop the field in the area of a fault. The company plans to build as quickly as possible an oil refinery in Arkhangelsk Oblast and a tanker-loading terminal in the Barents Sea.

## International Affairs

### Kravchuk Views Nation's International 'Priorities'

*LD2810000893 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 2230 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Excerpt] Kiev, 27 Oct (UNIAR)—Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk gave an interview to Czech newspaper MLADA FRONTA DNES [THE YOUNG FRONT TODAY] on 23 October. [passage omitted]

Replying to a question about Ukraine's international priorities, Leonid Kravchuk stated: "We believe one of the main priorities is to overcome the artificial division of Europe and again turn Ukraine into one of the advanced European states. The main task is to create reliable guarantees of the country's security. Ukraine's full integration into Europe will enrich the community of European nations itself."

Touching upon his proposal to set up a regional zone of stability and security, Kravchuk pointed out that it had been supported by Poland's President Lech Walesa and French Prime Minister Edouard Balladur. "I must warn potential critics that the talk is not about some new version of a military union to replace the former Warsaw Treaty. Besides, we are convinced that NATO occupies an important place in our region. Ukraine meets the desire of the Czech Republic to join the North Atlantic alliance with understanding, taking into account that this will ensure its national security interests, while NATO will be more active seeking a new role in the process of creating an all-European security system. Also we reaffirm our determination to abide by the obligations, as far as armaments control is concerned, and to become a nuclear-free state in future," underlined Kravchuk.

### Kravchuk Addresses Berthelsman Forum in Germany

*LD2710234493 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1700 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] The people of Ukraine are among those who wish to build their future in an independent state. These words became the leading idea of President Leonid Kravchuk's speech at the international Berthelsman forum, which took place on 23 October in Germany. Our observer Serhiy Hubin is at the microphone.

[Hubin] One of the most important tasks set by our country, pointed out Leonid Kravchuk, is to return to the circle of leading European states. Throughout the decades it has been deprived of such an opportunity. The European region is considered by Ukrainian politicians as a common home for all countries and nations that live in it. Willing to integrate into the most important European institutions, Ukraine, I quote the text of the speech by our president, is first and foremost targeted at maintaining the closest and broadest possible relations with the countries of the Central-Eastern Europe and the newly independent states: The former USSR republics. Not only geography but also common historic past, longstanding economic, cultural, humanitarian, and other ties unite us with these countries and nations, Kravchuk pointed out. Their further development will take place on an equal and mutually beneficial basis. Attempts to restore the domination of one state, apply pressure by force and impose some other's will on the nations are rejected as such. It was, probably, the most tragic in the history of European experience of the struggle for freedom and independence, that Ukraine gained through suffering, so as to prize peace and quiet. Its stabilizing role in post-Soviet space, which now resembles a bunch of ethnic, religious, ideological, and inter- state conflicts, is steadily growing. Sometimes, Kravchuk pointed out, one can hear, especially in the West, that Ukraine's development is slowed down and conservative.

However, our president continued further, one cannot disregard the fact that the upheaval on such a scale directly touched upon the vital interests of millions of people. Maintaining peace and social accord, Ukraine enters the civilized world in a civilized manner and introduces common human values inside the country.

This principle of gradualness and continuity has been transformed in the words of Leonid Kravchuk from the rostrum of the Berthelsman Forum. I quote: In its foreign policy, we consistently defend the following approach: Security for ourselves through security for all.

Ukraine comes out for the creation of a comprehensive all-European security system. In the opinion of Kravchuk, it may be built on the basis of the already existing international institutions. Above all, these are the CSCE, NATO, North Atlantic Cooperation Council and the Western European Union. It was underlined that Ukraine's direct membership in such a structure would create necessary external guarantees of its national security. A possibility of creating a so-called regional security system in Central and Eastern Europe is also considered to have good prospects. It is being actively discussed now by politicians of various ranks.

But here is how Kravchuk sees it. I quote: This initiative in no way envisages the creation of any military bloc to replace the former Warsaw Treaty. It is in no way directed against any state. On the contrary, any country of the region may join this initiative, unquote. Ukraine determined its stand in relation to NATO, considering it to be a guarantor of security on the continent, and showed understanding in relation to the countries that expressed their intention of joining this organization.

In his speech at the international Berthelsman Forum, I would like to remind you that it was held on 23 October in Germany, Kravchuk dwelled separately on the nuclear disarmament issue. He reiterated that Ukraine respected the obligations it assumed and more than once confirmed its right to become a non-nuclear state in the future. The disarmament process is long and such that needs considerable allocations. The latter, as is known, are difficult to make in Ukraine. Certain states extended special-purpose financial aid to us.

Having thanked them for this, Kravchuk again reminded us of the idea, forwarded by Ukraine at the world economic forum in Davos, on the expediency of setting up an international nuclear disarmament fund. In the opinion of our president, it could promote the process of denuclearization throughout the world. Here is one more quotation from Kravchuk's speech: We believe that the process of the denuclearization of Ukraine should coincide with specific actions by nuclear states aimed at achieving our common goal, i.e. the building of a nuclear-free and safe world. The president of Ukraine also spoke out for the development and consolidation of integration with both the West and the East. At this point, he indicated that the European Community and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development could promote this process, and called upon them for more resolute actions toward that end. Finally, Kravchuk added: Time is needed for Ukraine to join the present-day all-European process, however, we see Ukraine's future as that of an equal, law-governed, democratic state in a united Europe.

## Kravchuck Views Nuclear Disarmament, Policies

*AU2710154693 Vienna DER STANDARD in German 27 Oct p 4*

[Interview with President Leonid Kravchuk by Gerhard Tuschla in Kiev; date not given]

[Text] [Tuschla] Mr. President, during your last meeting with Russian head of state Boris Yeltsin you agreed to return all remaining nuclear weapons in Ukraine to Russia. This no longer seems to be under discussion today. Russia is accusing Ukraine of having broken its word.

[Kravchuk] First of all, the agreement that was made with President Yeltsin in Yalta has to be ratified. But I do not know how Russia wants to ratify it, because currently there is no parliament there. Ukraine sticks to its policy. Our country must become nuclear-free.

[Tuschla] If one listens to the discussion in your parliament, one could easily believe that the opposite opinion is prevailing.

[Kravchuk] All that cannot be done so easily and quickly. On the one hand, we are lacking the material and financial resources for the destruction of nuclear weapons. On the other, it is still unclear what security guarantees Ukraine can expect from its neighboring countries. It is easily conceivable that Ukraine will be left alone if Poland and the other Eastern European countries join NATO and, on the other hand, other neighboring countries belong to the CIS security system.

[Tuschla] What guarantees for the destruction of nuclear weapons can you give to U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher?

[Kravchuk] I protest against forcing a country to crawl on its knees and to give guarantees without a comprehensive settlement of things and a definition of the commitments of others. I can assure everyone today that we will destroy the nuclear arms. Today, however, in the middle of the economic crisis, I do not have the money to carry this out. Thus, why should such guarantees be given?

[Tuschla] German Chancellor Kohl recently said that Bonn will support Ukraine when it is nuclear-free.

[Kravchuk] I would like Kohl to support us, not only when we are already nuclear-free. In order to get there, we need financial, scientific, technical, and other help. I called for the establishment of a fund for nuclear disarmament. Individual countries preferred to cover themselves in this respect.

[Tuschla] That is to say, you are not flirting with the status of a nuclear power?

[Kravchuk] Ukraine is not able to completely control the 176 missiles with their launcher facilities. One way or another, these things have to disappear. Ukraine cannot control its missiles alone: Our military can aim the launch vehicles at certain targets, but it does not have control over the warheads and the nuclear potential.

[Tuschla] In concrete terms: You do not have the codes that are required for the launching of the missiles.

[Kravchuk] At the moment, we cannot launch the missiles. We could do it if we had set ourselves this task. We have the scientific and technical potential. But we have not set ourselves this task.

[Tuschla] According to the Lisbon protocol on the START I Treaty, you should scrap 130 of 176 missiles. What will be done with the remaining 46?

[Kravchuk] They will be a voucher for further negotiations. We could suspend permanent operational readiness and remove the launcher codes, so that the United States need not fear that these missiles will reach its territory. Of course, in that case we would also call on the states that have their missiles aimed at our territory to remove the codes from their missiles.

## Belarusian Defense Ministry Delegation on 1-Day Visit

*LD2710231093 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 2000 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] As has been reported by the press service of the Defense Ministry of Ukraine, a delegation from the Belarus Defense Ministry arrived here in Kiev on a one-day working visit. The guests were received by Defense Minister Colonel General Vitaliy Radetskyy and his deputies. Issues of deepening relations between the military departments of the two countries in various spheres were touched upon during the negotiations. Also discussed was a project of cooperation between the Defense Ministries of Ukraine and Belarus for the next year.

### Croatian Interior Ministry Delegation Ends Visit

*LD2710190793 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1600 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] A delegation of the Interior Ministry of the Republic of Croatia, headed by Interior Minister Ivan Jarnjak, has ended a two-day visit to Ukraine.

An agreement was signed between the governments of Croatia and Ukraine on cooperation in combating terrorism, smuggling, drug abuse, and organized crime, the [Croatian] Interior Ministry's public relations department announced today.

### Opposition Party Calls For Sanctions Against Russia

*AU2810063893 Zhytomyr KLYCH in Ukrainian No. 8, Oct 1993 p 1 (tentative)*

[Appeal by the Ukrainian Conservative Republican Party to the Conference of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Interparliamentary Assembly in Bucharest; issued on 2 Oct]

[Text] The recent events in the Republic of Georgia have proved unambiguously that the disintegrating Russian empire is capable of causing unprecedented misfortunes to the peoples of the former Soviet Union. The Russian Federation's striving to play the role of a peace-keeper among what used to be "fraternal and free" republics is fraught with bloodshed, terrible destruction, and the violation of the territorial integrity of those new states that are striving to achieve true independence.

The occupation of Abkhazia—the integral part of the Republic of Georgia—by separatist forces with the assistance of citizens and military technology of the great northern neighbor and with direct interference on the part of those Russian Army subunits that were supposed to fulfill a disengagement role between the warring parties proves without doubt that a policy aimed at restoring the old empire at any price has prevailed in the top power structures of Russia.

The war in Abkhazia is accompanied by a horrible "ethnic cleansing" against the indigenous Georgian population.

The attempts on the part of the Russian Federation to maintain control over the Black Sea coast by force of arms are also causing enormous economic losses to countries of the Black Sea Basin.

The UKRP [Ukrainian Conservative Republican Party] demands that the Conference of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Interparliamentary Assembly recognize Russia as an aggressor in the military conflict on the territory of the Republic of Georgia and, in accordance with the current international law, see to it that the Russian troops are immediately withdrawn from territories of independent states—republics of the former Soviet Union—and that corresponding political and economic sanctions be used against it.

Chairman of the UKRP S. Khmara

2 October 1993

## National Affairs

### President Kravchuk Says Reforms Proceeding

*LD2710192093 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1700 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] The Ukrainian people see their future in an independent state, stated Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk in an interview with a special correspondent of the MLADA FRONTA DNES [Czech newspaper: THE YOUNG FRONT TODAY] newspaper. In spite of all the difficulties connected with its renewal, he said, we want to fill this concept with substance, grounded on proven European experience, as soon as possible—legal provision of democratic freedoms, a market economy, the revival of Ukrainian culture and the legally guaranteed singularity of our ethnic national minorities.

The assertion that reforms are not moving in Ukraine and that there is still keen nostalgia for the past, continued the president, is unfounded. The fact is not taken into account that speedy changes on all of the territory of the former USSR are touching millions of people directly and are tough. We are endeavoring, while preserving a certain level of stability and social equality, to achieve the most important thing—progress and the consolidation of democratic principles in our life without dramatic conflicts. We are preparing a new constitution. Free parliamentary elections will take place soon. We are striving to proceed from our own experience, accumulated over two years of independence.

### Cabinet Discusses State Debt, Loss of Currency

*LD2710141493 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 2000 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] Kiev—Among the range of issues discussed at the latest cabinet of ministers' meeting, which was held on 25 October, the results of verifying the size of and ascertaining the circumstances of Ukraine's state debt to the Russian Federation provoked the greatest interest among the participants. An analysis of the reasons for the outflow of funds from Ukraine in 1992 testify to the fact that it was due to reasons of an institutional as well as a generally economic nature. Deputy Prime Minister Valentyn Landyk said in his speech that the unequal outflow of funds was caused, above all, by the lack of currency control, an organized and efficient hard currency market combined with a liberal monetary policy, high inflation rates, the actual fixing and subsidizing of the exchange rate (in relation to the ruble) for state enterprises through interstate offsetting and technical credits, and attempts by enterprises to obtain the highest return on their capital and avoid paying hard currency credits and taxes.

Thus, just as a result of the banks not adhering to the terms of the international (interstate) settlement, an extra 125.3 bn [billion] Russian rubles or $298.3 m [million] were included in Ukraine's state debt to Russia at the rate fixed by the intergovernment agreement of 26 May 1993. In Landyk's opinion, in order to put the situation right it is necessary for the customs bodies to increase hard currency controls across the entire perimeter of the country, intensify their contacts with banks and taxation bodies, and improve the hard currency market and the interdependence of inflation rates with the exchange rate. In addition, it is necessary to oblige commercial banks that have contravened the conditions of interstate settlements to compensate within a month the state budget for the losses connected with servicing and paying off the state debt.

## Radetskyy: Ministry Should Guide Military Industry

*LD2710204693 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1900 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Colonel-General Vitaliy Radetskyy, Ukraine's minister of defense, met with Borys Paton, president of the Academy of Sciences, today. During the conversation the problems of creating a national military-industrial complex were raised, and also forming a state program for developing armament and military technology. The minister and the academician agreed that the initiator of the creation of and the client for new types of armaments should be the Ministry of Defense. A specially created state military-industrial commission could coordinate the efforts of the military and scientists. It would also avoid the situation which existed in the former USSR where the military-industrial complex stood above the Ministry of Defense, the general and the scientist stressed.

## Officials Expect Additional Fuel Shortages

*LD2710155793 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in English 0100 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Speaking at a news conference in Kiev immediately after the cabinet's 25 October session, which was convened by President Kravchuk to evaluate Ukraine's overall economic situation in a bid to find ways to remedy it, government officials sounded fairly pessimistic, predicting further and persistent fuel shortages in the months to come.

By year's close, they warned, Ukraine fuel supplies will be reduced versus the planned figures by 12 million tonnes of petroleum, 8 billion cubic meters of natural gas, and 9 million tonnes of coal, because of raised prices for imported oil and gas, and the summer sweeping strike, which virtually paralyzed Ukraine's coal mining industry.

The government spokespersons referred to Ukrainian legislation's inconsistency and complexity, inflation and the coupon's instability, the embryonic banking, insurance and other societal infrastructures, as the key factors blocking foreign capital investments.

## Black Sea Fleet Commander Favors Personnel Cut

*LD2710122593 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 2145 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] Sevastopol, 26 Oct—Black Sea Fleet Commander Admiral Eduard Baltin has announced that his estimates show it is possible to cut the fleet's numerical strength by 15-20 percent without impairing its readiness for combat or shedding its officer personnel. [passage indistinct] On the basis of the theory of armed forces building, the table of organization and equipment should be restructured radically, Baltin said. In Eduard Baltin's view, such restructuring will increase the fleet's readiness for combat.

## Republican Party Leader on Elections, Other Issues

*WS2810111993 Lvov MOLODA HALYCHYNA in Ukrainian 16 Oct 93 p 2*

[Comments by Mykhaylo Horyn, head of the Ukrainian Republican Party, during interview given to Nataliya Hulchak; place and date not given]

[Text] **...The Forthcoming Elections to the Supreme Council**

Perhaps, it is not right to begin the election battle today, since no candidate could endure this marathon for half a year. During the entire campaign, a candidate is supposed to progress constantly, and he must select an optimal time, when he should join the campaign—not too soon and not too late. Those who are beginning today will not withstand the marathon. They will give up at some stage, and the voters will not pay attention to them.

We will begin our activities before the new year, and we will appoint our candidates very quickly.

### ...Blocs, Coalitions, and Teamwork

There is no political force in Ukraine today that would be able to run alone and have enough seats in the legislature. If some limits are introduced—for example like in other European countries from one to five percent—and if we do not win an appropriate number of seats, then the Ukrainian Republican Party [URP] will not enter the Supreme Council. There is one solution though—a coalition. Certain blocs have already been established—particularly with the Congress of National Democratic Forces. Maybe, we will be able to reach an agreement with other groups.

Given the present situation, we admit to two levels of this kind of consolidation. The first level considers joint appointing of candidates. The second provides for signing ceasefire agreements between us and other national-democratic-oriented groups, in case we do not reach such an accord on candidacies. We will refrain from competing with, for example, the Rukh bloc, but only in some areas.

Why does the URP want to form a bloc with the Independent Trade Union of Ukraine's Miners [NPHU]? Paradoxical situations occur in politics. The NPHU has very little in common with the issues connected with development of the Ukrainian state. Possibly, also Rukh, headed by Chornovil, wants to attract some voices of people who are influenced by this trade union, regardless of its political orientation.

### ...The Dismissal of [Defense] Minister Kostyantyn Morozov

I have had a conversation with Kostyantyn Petrovych, and when we discussed the issue of his participation in Ukraine's political life, he did not reject the idea. He provisionally agreed with my proposal to join the URP-headed coalition as a candidate. However, this does not mean that he has already launched an electoral campaign.

### ...Almost Uncontrolled Stepan Khmara [former URP leader]

Stepan Ilkovych's explanations about the voting in early elections to the Supreme Council published in VYSOKYY ZAMOK are merely platitudes.

Not only the national democratic deputies but also a number of independent deputies, centrists, and certain socialists have voted in favor of the Supreme Council's resignation, because they have understood that, in this situation, those who are against the resignation are motivated by personal interests.

And suddenly, 39 deputies from our party voted against the resignation—among them Stepan Khmara. Is it some sort of extravagance?

Only eight percent of the people have declared in a public opinion poll that the Supreme Council should be maintained. This means that 92 percent of the Ukrainian people want the Supreme Council to be dissolved, and there is no Stepan Khmara among those 92 percent.

### ...Candidates for the Presidency

Kravchuk's fate is in the hands of the Cabinet of Ministers, headed by Leonid Makarovych. If this cabinet is not able to overcome the economic crisis and the deteriorating living conditions, if it does not ascertain the fundamental defense of our state, and does not successfully introduce a national currency, it is very unlikely that Leonid Kravchuk will again be elected president in the forthcoming elections. [Supreme Council Chairman] Ivan Plyushch, Ihor Yukhnovskyy [not further identified], and [Rukh leader] Vyacheslav Chornovil could be mentioned as other possible candidates. There is one more serious candidate—Volodymyr Hrynyov [chairman of the New Ukraine coalition], who has already set up an electoral campaign. On 8 October in Dnipropetrovsk, a presentation of the Center for Political Initiatives was held. Hrynyov is the honorary president of the center. Apparently, it is a political research center; however, having analyzed its activities (discussions, conferences, seminars with leading social and political leaders, organizations, as well as its support and financing of electoral campaigns of various candidates), its orientation become obvious.

Among the founders of this center are the Business Diaspora of Ukraine, the Moscow company, the Dnipropetrovsk Youth Institute, the Institute of International Economic, Political, and Legal Relations, and the Dnipropetrovsk branch of the Whisper joint-stock company.

Thanks to financial aid, Mister Volodymyr has become a serious candidate for the presidential office. Knowing his orientation, we expect many problems with him in future.

### ...Draft Legislation Concerning the "Law on Penalties for Mercenaries, Organization of Illegal Paramilitary Units, and Violation of Civil Organizations"

This draft decree has been aimed at precisely defined targets. It has been aimed against the Ukrainian National Self Defense [UNSO] and units affiliated with it.

It is worth mentioning that this organization has undergone an evolution. The UNSO in 1993 is not the same as it was in 1992. It has matured. Participation in fighting for the territorial integrity of Georgia has won glory for this organization.

Comparing the UNSO with the Social National Party of Ukraine [SNPU], it becomes obvious that the SNPU remains in its teenage period. It is self-righteous and wants to prove itself through engagement in disputes with other organizations. The UNSO has already gone through such a period. It has shifted slightly from the right to the center. At the same time, the SNPU continues to remain at the stage, when a man is trying to verify himself by means of extravagant whims.

## Program for Returning Deportees Encounters Problems

*PM2710161793 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Oct 93 First Edition p 2*

[Nikolay Semena report: "In Crimea 1,300 Projects Could Become Construction Schedule Overruns"]

[Text] Simferopol—A session of the Crimean Council of Ministers has been addressed by A. Formanchuk, deputy head of the government who is simultaneously chairman of the newly formed State Committee for the Affairs of the Republic's Nationalities. He announced that 1,300 projects which are being built as part of the program for the return of deported peoples could become construction schedule overruns because of the depreciation of the funds allocated to them by the Ukrainian Government.

The past three years demonstrate that the return of the deported peoples has not been well organized. The process needs a major revision of priorities. Disorganized construction in 213 locations with a high proportion of Crimean Tatars among the population, sometimes 3,000-4,000 people, has meant that only apartment blocks have been built, with no provision of roads, mains water, electricity, or gas supply. In the Crimean Tatar settlements there are no hospitals, medical centers, or stores.

In response to a proposal from the Crimean State Committee for Nationalities' Affairs, the Council of Ministers has decided to carry out an inventory of construction projects, freeze those which have just been begun, and concentrate funds on the completion of enterprises in the social sphere. In response to proposals from local level it has been decided to elaborate resettlement programs for 1994 to eliminate distortions in this haphazard process.

## Opposition Newspaper Editor Beaten Up

*PM2710140993 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 27 Oct 93 p 2*

[Report by correspondent Olga Musafirova: "Last Warning to Volodya Kuleba?"]

[Text] On 25 October at about 1900 Vladimir Kuleba, editor of the Ukrainian newspaper NEZAVISIMOST, was beaten up at the entrance to his home. It cannot be said this was accidental. A masked man with the appearance of a body-builder had obviously been lying in wait for the journalist. To be sure, in addition to several heavy blows the attacker used a gas cylinder. And, of course, he vanished.

Exactly a year ago the editor had his apartment burned down, with some flammable substance poured over the door. At the time, as on this occasion, militia with dogs arrived in large numbers when they were called. But they did not find any criminals.

In Ukraine NEZAVISIMOST has the official status of a publication opposed to the supreme legislative power and to the president personally. And when from one issue to the next those who make policy are called by their names and conclusively accused of corruption we should not be surprised at anything. You hit us with your newspaper and we... On numerous occasions, including in the Moscow press, Vladimir Kuleba has described the critical state of glasnost in Ukraine. It looks as though he has been warned one last time.

## Sevastopol Bloc Wants Kasatonov as Crimean President

*MK2710120093 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 27 Oct 93 p 3*

[Unattributed report under the "NEGA Reports" column: "Crimea"]

[Text] People of Sevastopol who think of themselves as Russian citizens plan to join in the elections for the State Duma and the Federation Council of Russia. On their behalf, leaders of two groups of deputies of the city soviet led by Aleksandr Kruglov and Batalya Vasilyeva, as well as 13 public and political organizations have turned to Nikolay Ryabov, chairman of the Central Electoral Commission of Russia, with a request to form on the territory of Sevastopol an electoral district for the elections for the supreme bodies of state power of Russia.

The bloc of leftist and patriotic Russian organizations of Sevastopol have turned to Admiral Kasatonov, first deputy commander-in-chief of the Russian Navy, with a request to agree to run for president of the Republic of Crimea. Yuriy Meshkov, chairman of the Republican Party of Crimea, has stated that Kasatonov's candidacy is supported by his and a number of other parties, including the Russian Party of Crimea. The official nomination of presidential candidates, in line with the legislation of the Republic of Crimea, can start on 16 November. A. Kruglov thinks that Kasatonov has every reason to register as a candidate for president of the Republic of Crimea. By the time the law "On Citizenship of Ukraine" was passed, Kasatonov had lived in Sevastopol for 10 years which, under the law, qualifies him as a citizen of the republic. Kasatonov was transferred to Moscow on the insistence of Ukraine President L. Kravchuk. After his transfer, Kasatonov retains his apartment and residence registration in Sevastopol, as he lives in Moscow at a state-provided dacha. According to Kruglov's and Meshkov's information, Kasatonov has not taken Russian citizenship.

## Belarus

### Government Discusses Privatization Failures

*LD2710213193 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 0000 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Vyacheslav Kebich, chairman of the Council of Ministers, chaired a routine sitting of the Council of Ministers Presidium. The point of the agenda "on additional measures for carrying out privatization of state property in the Republic of Belarus" provoked a heated discussion. As V. Matsyushewski, chairman of the State Committee for Property noted, the process of privatization in the republic is, unfortunately, developing extremely slowly so far. There is an objective reason for that—a relevant legal basis was created only this summer. Besides, the situation is also aggravated by a number of reasons of a subjective nature.

Matsyushewski said that the negative attitude of many local soviets of people's deputies and the unwillingness of individual ministries and departments to engage actively in that process, as a main hindrance in the matter of privatization. Many positions and appraisals in the report brought about objections from participants in the sitting. It was stressed that the root of the problem lies not in "conservatism" of individual leaders of local soviets, ministries, and departments but in the general economic situation, in working collectives themselves playing a waiting game, in the absence of interest among the managers of the property subject to privatization.

On Kebich's suggestion, relevant administration structures were instructed to work out a mechanism of privatization in more detail, envisaging in particular redistribution of revenue raised as a result in favor of direct managers of the privatized property. The sitting also discussed some other issues of the socio-economic life of the republic. A number of measures for strengthening the protection of public order and the fight against crime were considered separately.

### Government Decree on Altering Wage Rates, Pensions

*WS2710123393 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 0400 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] In connection with increases in prices for certain commodities and tariffs on consumer services, the Belarusian Cabinet of Ministers has adopted a decree on measures for the people's social protection.

Effective 1 November 1993, the minimum wage will stand at 20,000 rubles [R] and first category wages will rise to R22,000. A recalculation of all pensions will also be conducted. When granting pensions, the verification of wages will be based on average wages in September 1993 instead of April-June 1993. The decree preserves supplementary payments to the minimum pensions for invalids, or to families in which a principal wage earner has died, or to a person who has incomplete service time and who is paid by social security authorities in the amount of 40 percent of old-age pensions. Budget sector ministries, departments, local executive councils, enterprise managers, institutions, and organizations are tasked with recalculating wage rates in accordance with the first category wage rate established by this decree and a single wage scale ratio. The Ministry of Social Security, the Defense Ministry, the Internal Affairs Ministry, the Committee for State Security, and the Central Administration of Border Troops within the Belarusian Cabinet of Ministers are tasked with recalculating pensions based on the minimum wage, beginning 1 November 1993. In addition, the Committee for Labor and Social Protection, along with the Finance Ministry and the Fund for Social Protection of Population are charged with revising the amount of supplementary financial payments. The State Committee for Statistics is tasked with calculating a price index that characterizes the changes in consumer costs in relation to September 1993 prices.

The complete text of the decree will be published in the Republic's newspapers.

### Supreme Soviet Presidium Discusses Crime, Religion

*WS2810110293 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 0400 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Belarusian Supreme Soviet Chairman Stanislav Shushkevich has headed the plenary session of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet. Participants discussed issues related to the upcoming 13th session of the legislature, which is to begin on 9 November. General Prosecutor Vasil Shaladonov, Minister of International Affairs Vladimir Yegorov, and Eduard Shirkovskiy, chairman of the Committee for State Security, delivered reports on the issue of combating crime. Participants in the session adopted a decision to revise the draft program of primary measures for combating crime. The participants also discussed the implementation of the Supreme Soviet decree from 17 December 1992, regarding the implementation of the law on religious freedom in the Republic of Belarus, and a range of other issues.

### Shushkevich: Partnership With NATO Harmless to Neutrality

*LD2710202493 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1705 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Report by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from the "Presidential Bulletin" feature:]

[Text] Parliament Chairman Stanislav Shushkevich told newsmen in Minsk Tuesday night that he "will scrutinize" President Clinton's proposal to involve Belarus in the "Partnership for Peace" Program. According to the document, worked out by Clinton himself and handed to Shushkevich by Secretary of State Warren Christopher yesterday. Belarus can take part in NATO's joint planning and exercises and stay in contact with it, although it is not affiliated with the alliance.

Shushkevich described the initiative as compatible with Belarusian neutrality.

Christopher declared at the end of his visit to Minsk that the basic goal of his tour of the nuclear-capable CIS countries was to see how strategic nuclear arms were being reduced and encourage all the states, actively participating in this process.

He reiterated his country's great desire to see American-Belarusian documents on guaranteed foreign investment signed even by the end of this year. He welcomed plans to hold new parliamentary elections in Belarus in March and pledged U.S. assistance to an election campaign.

Asked by Interfax if U.S. planned to help Belarus to scrap conventional arms, Christopher revealed that the matter had been discussed with Belarusian leaders, and U.S. was ready to help. Besides, he added, the issue has been thoroughly studied in the Pentagon, where the Belarusian defense minister has arrived for talks at his American counterpart's invitation. In Christopher's view, these negotiations could yield good results, too.

### Kravchanka in Car Accident; No Injuries

*WS2710140493 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 1300 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] According to the press service of the Belarusian Ministry of Internal Affairs, on 26 October, the car in which Belarusian Foreign Minister Petr Kravchanka was going to the airport sustained an accident. The passengers of the car were not hurt. The Ministry of Internal Affairs has launched an investigation into the matter.

## Moldova

### President Reassures Russian-Speaking Population

*LD2710211993 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1705 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Report by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from the "Presidential Bulletin" feature]

[Text] President Mircea Snegur has had a meeting in Chisinau with members of Moldova's Russian-speaking community, which constitutes a large proportion of the country's population.

Snegur discussed with them a wide range of matters concerning the community's status and assured them that the Russian-speakers' educational, cultural, language and other problems would be solved whenever this proved possible. He said the Moldovan leadership intended to lower the standards for the tests for knowledge of the official language to be given to public sector employees early next year.

IF [INTERFAX] Note: The main demand which Moldova's Russian-speaking minority has consistently been making since the law on the official language came out in 1990, is for repealing those provisions in it which limit Russian-speakers' opportunities for receiving a higher education and employment in the public sector.

### Defense Minister Charged With Illegal Arms Sales

*AU2710151293 Bucharest EVENIMENTUL ZILEI in Romanian 23 Oct 93 p 5*

[Iulian Chifu article: "The Minister of National Defense Is Busy With the Illegal Sale of Available Weapons"]

[Text] After the end of the recent scandal, launched by the former chief of the General Staff of the Republic of Moldova in connection with loosing the war in the Dniester region because of the current minister of national defense, Pavel Creanga is in the focus of new accusations—namely, the selling of military equipment. The weekly GLASUL NATIUNII [NATION'S VOICE], published in Chisinau on 22 October, harshly criticizes the minister of national defense of the Republic of Moldova for violating President Mircea Snegur's decree prohibiting the alienation of military equipment. According to the article in question, Pavel Creanga has sold 50 SKS rifles worth some $200 each for 1,180 rubles per rifle.

At the same time, Division General Pavel Creanga, together with the chief of the Specialists Training Center at Rezina, sold two military automobiles for 10,736 and 12,525 rubles respectively.

We also want to mention that, within the framework of the military training of the national Army of the Republic of Moldova, one soldier uses six bullets a month, while military pilots fly once a week.

### Daily: 30 Mercenaries Participated in Moscow Events

*AU2710144393 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 1936 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] Chisinau BASAPRESS, 26/10/1993—An article published in the newspaper MOLODOZH MOLDOVIY (Youth of Moldova) estimates that in the Moscow mutiny participated approximately 30 Dniester mercenaries. Although official bodies had not yet published exact numbers, it is already known that near the White House, the Mayor's Office, and OSTANKINO TV soldiers from the Dniester Battalion and the Delta special detachment of the Dniester security forces were involved in the fighting. They were instructed by the Dniester Minister of Security Shevtsov [name as received] and deputy minister of interior Matveyev, who are members of the Tiraspol government. Dniester leaders did not express any official attitude with respect to the actions of their ministers who brutally interfered in the internal affairs of Russia, argues MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS (Komsomolist of Moscow). Since 5 October the Central Bank of Russia suspended all financial transactions with the self- styled Dniester Republic, the quoted source added.

## Romanian Envoy Affirms Importance of Bilateral Ties

*AU2710144593 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 1936 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] Chisinau BASAPRESS, 26/10/1993—Romania gives major importance to relations in all domains with the Republic of Moldova. These relations are based on the recognition of sovereignty and independence of the two states, declared Marian Enache, Romanian ambassador in Chisinau during yesterday's reception devoted to the day of Romanian Army. The close cooperation between Romania and Moldova does not contravene anyone's interests and can greatly contribute to peace and stability in this zone, the Romanian ambassador added. President Mircea Snegur and Speaker of Parliament Petru Lucinschi were not present at the ceremony. The representative of the president's press service told BASA that during the ceremony Mircea Snegur had a meeting and hence he could not accept the invitation.

## Kazakhstan

### Nazarbayev Says Nation May Introduce Own Currency

*LD2710203793 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1800 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Russia is refusing to let Kazakhstan exchange its old rubles for new. In connection with this, the question arises in the republic regarding the introduction of Kazakhstan's own currency. Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev said this today when he visited the Kirov works in Almaty.

### National Bank Reaches Accord With Iranian Bank

*LD2710133893 Tehran IRNA in English 1253 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Almaty Oct. 27, IRNA—The Central Bank of Iran and the National Bank of Kazakhstan will open a special bank account to regulate the payment of bilateral economic transactions.

Governor of the Central Bank of Iran Mohammad Hoseyn 'Adeli Tuesday said the special account would be opened with a total capital of dlrs. 10 million to provide facilities for mutual trade exchanges.

According to a letter of understanding signed by 'Adeli and his Kazakh counterpart, the two banks will grant reciprocal credit facilities, up to dlrs. 10 million, six months after the agreement is put into effect.

The special account is exempted from taxation and commission, he said.

'Adeli added that upon an agreement reached between the two officials, a branch of Iran's "Bank Saderat" will be opened in Almaty within two months.

The bank will provide facilities for bilateral trade exchanges, especially in connection with the existing problem for the exchange of ruble and other convertible currencies.

Banking experts of Kazakhstan can take part in the international Islamic banking courses which is being held in Iran in October every year, he said. In addition, some 15 Kazakh experts can take part in the three-month training courses sponsored by the Central Bank of Iran.

'Adeli is a member of President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani's entourage in the five-nation tour of the Central Asian states.

President Rafsanjani is currently in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan, as the last leg of his tour. The president and his delegation have already paid visits to Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan.

### Foreign Minister Meets ECO Secretary General

*LD2710184693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1652 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Gennadiy Kulagin]

[Text] Almaty October 27 TASS—Kazakh Foreign Minister Tuleutay Suleymenov met on Wednesday night with Shamshad Ahmad, secretary general of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), who attended the Almaty conference of the transportation ministers of ECO member-countries.

The foreign minister stressed the importance of the forum for Kazakhstan and its great significance for enhancing ties among Asian peoples. During the meeting, the two sides discussed possible measures to make the activities of the Economic Cooperation Organization more effective, as well as to step up Kazakhstan's participation in this international organization.

### Looters Reportedly Delay 16 Nov Baykonur Launch

*LD2710143893 Almaty KAZTAG in Russian 1230 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Almaty—News that is unlikely to leave one indifferent was carried by the republican daily EKSPRESS K on 26 October. In its regular report from the Baykonur launching site, the newspaper says that a flight planned on 16 November, with Kazakhstani board-engineer Talgat Musabayev as a crew member on the second team, has been canceled. It was decided to postpone it to 4 January.

The reason for the cancellation is probably financial, alongside unexpected technical malfunctions. The newspaper's sources from Baykonur, who, for obvious reasons, want to remain anonymous, informed it that unidentified plotters had cut off plugs containing gold from the systems that provide automated coupling of the spaceship with the orbital station. The systems have to be completely replaced now.

It is still difficult to say how much this sensation corresponds to the real situation. The relevant authorities of the republic have refused to comment on this information until it is thoroughly checked. One can understand these officials. The press has already covered facts of theft of precious and non-ferrous metals from the auxiliary technological equipment at the cosmodrome several times. Those publications were accurate, on the whole. It cannot be ruled out, then, that criminals have reached the space technology itself.

Nevertheless, a number of local observers do not think that such a situation is probable. In their opinion, the decades-long practice of guaranteed high reliability of our domestic spaceships is still very efficient. The following facts are given as arguments: from the beginning of the year Russia has launched 39 spaceships, and only one was a failure. The United States, for instance, has launched only 19 devices during the same period, and has had five failures.

## Tajikistan

### CIS Forces' Commander on Latest Situation

*LD2710214993 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1705 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Report by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from the "Presidential Bulletin" feature]

[Text] "Everyone has a right to religious freedom, but we will not allow imposing Islam on Tajikistan," said Boris Pyankov, commander of the CIS peace-keeping forces in Tajikistan, at a news conference in Dushanbe. He said that he had over 25,000 men under his command, motorized units were reinforced with armored vehicles and had combat jets at their disposal. "If illegal militias, whoever commands them, get stronger, so will the potential and activities of the peace-keeping forces," Pyankov emphasized.

The general also said that the command of CIS peacekeeping forces was empowered not only to protect the Tajik-Afghan border but also to quench, if necessary, conflicts inside Tajikistan, "even though we hope we will not have to do this."

Pyankov thinks that several factors contribute to the grave situation in the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Region. The separatist drive is strong there, he feels.

He dismissed the Afghan Foreign Ministry's statement of October 25th saying that CIS forces had bombarded villages inside that country, killing one civilian. He said that the villages named in the statement were outside the firing range of the CIS forces or any other forces in Tajikistan.

He emphasized that acts of aggression had been committed against Tajikistan from the neighboring country and that instructors and mercenaries from other countries fought on the opposition side. He said, however, that the Afghan government did not necessarily coordinate the armed attacks of Tajikistan.

Major General Anatoliy Chechulin, commander of the Russian border guards in Tajikistan, said that opposition fighters were concentrating in border areas of Afghanistan. They have heavy artillery and even aircraft at their disposal. Russian border posts come under fire daily from both Afghanistan and inside Tajikistan where fighters have infiltrated.

Pyankov said that CIS joint peace keeping forces are to stay in Tajikistan for six months. One half of their upkeep is financed by Russia, 15 percent by Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan each and 10 percent by Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan each. Once their term ends, the peace keeping forces will either withdraw or stay there if the Tajik government so requests.

### 30 Opposition Fighters Killed Near Shurabadskiy

*LD2710133793 Dushanbe Radio Tajikistan Network in Tajik 1200 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Our correspondent Abdusattor Gulahmad reported several hours ago from the town of Kulyab that employees of National Security Committee who are in the Kulyab area carried out a successful operation near the village of (Khirmanjoy), Shurabadskiy rayon, today. They arrested a group of fighters of the Tajik opposition who were trying to destabilize the situation. Thirty fighters of the Tajik opposition were killed as a result of the operation.

As a result of this operation, one of their caches was found. It contained 27,075 sniper bullets, three grenades, six antitank shells, one radio transmitter, one shoulder missile, and a large quantity of ammunition. This means that antigovernment groups are still trying to destabilize the situation.

Rustam Mahmudov, Davlat Zaripov, Nasimjon Sharipov, Abdumajid Nurmatov, Sattor Abdulhayov, and others, employees of the National Security Committee, displayed courage in the course of this operation.

## Uzbekistan

### Karimov on Moscow Events, Russia's Regional Role

*BR2710161493 Paris LIBERATION in French 27 Oct p 20*

[Interview with President Islam Karimov by Marc Delpho; place and date not given—first two paragraphs are LIBERATION introduction]

[Text] Islam Karimov, 55, arrives in France today for a visit. Head of the former local Communist Party, now known as the Popular Democratic Party, he became head of state after leading his country to independence at the end of 1991. He has earned the reputation of being one of the most authoritarian leaders in the former USSR, silencing his opponents in the name of the stability required for an economic development on the Chinese model. He has also adopted a secularism, inspired by Turkey, as a defense against the threat of Muslim fundamentalism, encouraged by the example of Afghanistan.

Uzbekistan is a country of pivotal importance in Central Asia due to its large population, traditional dynamism, and quality of it elites. The Uzbek Army, in cooperation with the Russians, intervened earlier this year in neighboring Tajikistan to return to power the neo-communist and secular regime that had been waging a civil war against an opposition coalition of islamists and democrats. In early October, at the time of the 48th meeting of the UN General Assembly, Islam Karimov suggested setting up a UN body in Tashkent "to guarantee cooperation between the countries of Central Asia and regional security and stability." He proposed direct negotiations between the Tajik Government and its armed opposition based in Afghanistan.

[Delpho] Uzbekistan is a member of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE). Do you really feel European?

[Karimov] Uzbekistan lies between Europe and Asia. The Silk Road which linked China and Europe passed through our land. By the time of Alexander the Great, our culture was already flourishing. We again want to enjoy the influence of that time. We are an Asian country which must look toward Europe and the whole world.

[Delpho] Did recent events in Moscow worry you?

[Karimov] In the former Soviet Union, there is not a single person who has not been acutely aware of what happened in Moscow. Russia was in danger of disintegrating due to a loss of control by those running the country. The confrontation is continuing and the country remains divided. It is not only a matter of opposing political forces, but of a country with many different peoples and nationalities. I would not like to see the same situation as in 1917, when the Reds confronted the Whites. There are 2 million Russian speakers in Uzbekistan. Russia's problems, therefore, could have a direct impact on the whole of Central Asia. The steps taken by President Yeltsin are a logical consequence of events that had been dragging on for months. However, Russia could return to dictatorship.

[Delpho] The Russian Army has intervened in several conflicts in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). Do you fear a resurgence of Russian imperialism?

[Karimov] Disorder in the Caucasus led Shevardnadze and Aliyev (the presidents of Georgia and Azerbaijan, respectively) to draw closer to Moscow. It was Lenin who said that behind every two Russians there is a pan-Russian. We should not be surprised to find chauvinistic tendencies still present in Russia.

[Delpho] In the future, will Central Asia be able to guarantee its own security without outside help?

[Karimov] The countries of Central Asia will only be able to guarantee their security collectively, i.e., within the CIS. The joint CIS defense agreement, signed in Tashkent on 15 May 1992, is an important symbol of this. Russia, with its potential and military power, must guarantee the security of Central Asia.

[Delpho] Do you fear the Afghan mujahidin?

[Karimov] The mujahidin are the other military force to be reckoned with in our region, but they are not autonomous, whereas Russia is. These two military potentials cannot be placed on the same level. The mujahidin have not known a normal life for 15 years. They are ready to fight for money. The problem with a region as vast as Central Asia is to know which of the major powers can intervene militarily. Here it is Russia. I spoke of this at the United Nations. That organization also has a role in Central Asia.

[Delpho] Does the civil war in Tajikistan and the fighting on the Tajik-Afghan border worry you?

[Karimov] The events in Tajikistan could directly influence Uzbekistan because there is no border between our two countries, at least in the sense of borders as you know them in Europe. Twenty- six percent of the people of Tajikistan are Uzbek. There are also 1 million Tajiks in Uzbekistan. Also, Afghanistan is important to us in economic terms because it can grant us access to the Indian Ocean via Pakistan, and to the Persian Gulf via Iran. We, therefore, must make every effort to settle our differences with Afghanistan.

## Karimov Holds Talks With Mitterrand in Paris

*LD2710201693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1955 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[By ITAR-TASs correspondent Sergey Batyrev]

[Text] Paris October 27 TASS—President Islam Karimov of the Central Asian Republic of Uzbekistan arrived here on Wednesday for an official visit.

Later in the day, the Uzbek president met with his French counterpart Francois Mitterrand in the French president's palace. Then Karimov signed the Paris Charter for a New Europe, the basic document of the Conference for Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE). The two leaders also signed an agreement on friendship and cooperation between France and Uzbekistan, as well as a number of intergovernmental accords.

## Armenia

### Foreign Ministry Condemns Azerbaijani Offensive

*NC2710210193 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1400 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Statement issued by the Armenian Foreign Ministry; date not given]

[Text] The Armenian Foreign Ministry condemns the military attacks launched by the Azerbaijani forces in Dzhebrailskiy Rayon on 21 October. Despite the restraint shown by the Nagorno-Karabakh leadership and its many warnings to Baku on the possible serious consequences of such actions, these operations continued unceasingly for three days.

The military attacks ended with the defeat of the Azerbaijani forces. The Nagorno-Karabakh Self-Defense Forces took Azerbaijani POW's and seized [words indistinct] military equipment.

The Azerbaijani attack disrupted the fragile cease-fire, created a new spiral of events, and caused new human suffering. The tension has escalated and new complications have arisen in the already tough talks.

The Armenian Foreign Ministry finds it hard to work out whether the attack launched by eight tanks, 10 armored cars, and 500 infantrymen was really organized by uncontrollable groups, as particular officials in Baku claim, or whether it was the (?usual) Azerbaijani attempt to solve the Karabakh problem by military means.

Azerbaijan has rejected the schedule on urgent measures proposed by the CSCE presidency and endorsed by the UN Security Council and all the efforts aimed at consolidating the cease-fire.

The attack was launched on the eve of the visit to Baku by the Swedish foreign minister and the term chairman of the CSCE, Margaretha af Ugglas, and the Iranian President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

The attack is indisputable evidence of the irresponsible actions of the Azerbaijani officials, who, for propaganda reasons, are endangering lives and the cease-fire.

The Armenian Foreign Ministry believes the Azerbaijani Government is responsible for these unwise actions and for their consequences; it is the duty of all the sides interested in peace and the peace talks in the region to condemn Azerbaijan.

The Armenian Foreign Ministry calls on all the major sides in the conflict to observe the temporary cease-fire and refrain from action that endangers the peace process.

### Yerevan Reports Azerbaijani Shelling of Borders

*NC2710210293 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1800 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Tension rose again in the southern sector of Armenia's border yesterday evening. The Azerbaijani formations resumed their shelling of the Armenian positions in Megrinskiy Rayon at 1800. They used almost all types of weapons. The Armenian Defense Ministry press service reported that the armed formations in Azerbaijan's Zangelanskiy Rayon used tanks and Grads to shell the border in Kapanskiy Rayon. Adhering to the cease-fire agreement on the Armenian border, our border guards did not retaliate in Megrinskiy and Kapanskiy Rayons.

However, the enemy disregarded the cease-fire and resumed shelling the Armenian positions near Vazashen and Diran, in Idzhevanskiy Rayon, at 1645 yesterday. They used infantry fighting vehicles, tanks, and machine guns. There were no casualties.

An enemy force consisting of 30 men tried to launch a reconnaissance attack against the defensive positions near Shagat, in Sisianskiy Rayon, at 0300 this morning. The Armenian fighters were able to neutralize the attack.

The armed formations in Zangelanskiy Rayon resumed their shelling of the positions near Nyuvadi, in Megrinskiy Rayon, at dawn today. The Armenian forces again refrained from retaliating. The shelling of the Armenian positions was still continuing at 1630 today. There have been casualties. The amount of new damage caused by the enemy is being determined.

### CSCE Official Arrives, Meets Ter-Petrosyan

*LD2710200793 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1800 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Report over video by correspondent Vladimir Nazaryan; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] After visiting Baku, a CSCE delegation led by Margarethe af Ugglas, chairman of this prestigious organization and Swedish foreign minister, arrived in Yerevan to study in greater detail the situation in the zone of the Karabakh conflict. The CSCE delegation was received by Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan today.

Speaking about the latest disruption of the cease-fire in the conflict zone, the Armenian president explained that this fresh outburst of confrontation was caused by the Azerbaijani authorities' reluctance to renounce a policy of solving the problem by force.

At Mrs. af Ugglas' request, Robert Kocharyan, chairman of the State Defense Committee, and Arkadiy Gukasyan, head of the republic's foreign political department, who are plenipotentiary representatives of the Nagorno-Karabakh republic, arrived in the Armenian capital.

Before leaving Yerevan, the CSCE chairman held a news conference for Armenian and foreign correspondents. [video shows Af Ugglas arriving at the airport; talking with Ter-Petrosyan]

### Further on Meeting

*NC2710223393 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 2000 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan today received the Swedish foreign minister and chairman of the CSCE, Margaretha af Ugglas, and her delegation, who arrived in Yerevan from Baku.

The CSCE delegation is visiting the region to study the situation.

Levon Ter-Petrosyan and af Ugglas discussed the possibility of implementing further steps by the CSCE for the peaceful solution of the Karabakh problem. The Armenian president briefed the delegation on the Armenian leadership's position on a Karabakh settlement and explained the reasons for intensifying recent military operations. These operations resulted from the Azerbaijani authorities not renouncing their military methods for a Karabakh solution. This policy is the cause of the military operations. Levon Ter-Petrosyan said he hoped the visit to the region by af Ugglas and her delegation would help to activate the CSCE role in the process to settle the conflict.

### Meets With Parliament Officials

*NC2710223693 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 2000 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Babken Ararktsyan, chairman of the Supreme Council, received Swedish Foreign Minister and CSCE Chairman Margaretha af Ugglas and her delegation on 27 October.

Welcoming the guests, Babken Ararktsyan said he hoped that the visit would help activate the peace process within the CSCE framework, in view of the fact that the pace of the efforts to ease the tension in the region has fallen far behind the pace of developments there.

The chairman of the Supreme Council noted that despite the multiplicity of political forces in the Armenian Supreme Council, the parliament has always favored a political solution to the Karabakh problem and is doing as much as it can to bring about a cease-fire in the conflict zone and a dialogue between Karabakh and Azerbaijan.

It was stressed that in numerous statements, the Nagorno-Karabakh officials also confirmed their readiness for a political settlement to the problem, but the productivity of any dialogue is contingent upon achieving an acceptable solution and on the genuine interest in such a solution by the other side.

During the meeting, Margaretha af Ugglas agreed that CSCE efforts are not keeping pace with the changes in the region's situation and that it is necessary to increase the efforts.

At the request of the guests, Babken Ararktsyan spoke about ways to establish peace in the region and discussed a number of other problems. He specifically expressed his conviction that the extension of the cease-fire within the framework of the resumption of the preliminary agreement between Azerbaijan and Karabakh should not be a cause for delaying the overall process. The cease-fire period should be used intensively to formulate real mechanisms to implement political dialogue and mutual responsibilities; otherwise, it will not be possible to ensure the stability of the cease-fire. In any case, the process should not reach an impasse, and, at the very least, no new problems should arise during the implementation of the CSCE Minsk Group's schedule and while the existing problems are being solved step by step, concluded Babken Araktsyan.

Also that day, Margaretha af Ugglas and her delegation met Supreme Council Deputy Chairman Ardashes Tumanyan and representatives of the political parties and deputies' groups in the parliament. The CSCE delegation became familiar with the views of the current forces in the parliament.

During the free exchange of views, the representatives of the parliamentary groups specifically noted that the parliament's view on this matter has already been expressed by a decision it adopted a year ago, which stipulates that any solution that regards Nagorno- Karabakh as part of Azerbaijan is unacceptable to Armenia. As such, it was also noted that stressing the supremacy of the CSCE principle of the inviolability of the borders over the equally important principle of the free self-determination of the nations restricts the framework of the political talks.

In assessing the cease-fire that was recently established between the conflicting sides, the representatives of the parliamentary groups drew the CSCE delegation's attention to the fact that Azerbaijan actually used the temporary cease-fire to prepare for a new military offensive. The violation of the cease-fire and the latest military operations unfolding in the south of the Nagorno- Karabakh Republic prove that Azerbaijan has not yet given up the illusion of solving the problem through military force.

Margaretha af Ugglas noted that the principle of the inviolability of the borders does not preclude the possibility of reviewing this principle through political negotiations or other peaceful means. She called on Armenia to use its influence to establish a long-lasting peace in the region.

To conclude the meeting, Ardashes Tumanyan noted that any political solution that satisfactory to Karabakh is also acceptable to Armenia. This solution should be achieved through talks between officials of Nagorno-Karabakh and Azerbaijan.

### Ter-Petrosyan Leaves for Paris To Open Exhibition

*NC2710164293 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1400 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan left for Paris today to attend the opening of an exhibition on the history of the Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia between the 12th and 14th centuries. The exhibition is (?being organized) by the [name indistinct] Committee. French President Francois Mitterrand and the French and Cypriot ministers of culture will also attend the opening ceremony.

State Minister Vazgen Sargisyan and the French Ambassador to Armenia France d'Arteng accompanied the president.

### Parliament Interrupted During Privatization Vote

*NC2710185393 Yerevan SNARK in English 0846 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Yerevan, October 27 (SNARK)—Today the parliament fraction of the heading party—the Armenian Pannational Movement—has left the session hall when the voting on the state enterprises privatization project didn't give any positive results.

According to the project, 20 percents of the balance sheet cost of state enterprises were supposed to be given to the labor collectives of these enterprises. Two parliamentary fractions of socialistic directions—the Armenian Communist Party and the Armenian Revolutionary Federation "Dashnaktsutyun"—were against the project.

One of the leaders of the Armenian National Movement Eduard Yegoryan accused the project opponents of resisting of the economic reforms. "In Armenia reaction must be overcome", he said.

Parliament session is interrupted.

## Azerbaijan

### Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani Visits

#### Holds Talks With Aliyev

*LD2710115893 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] The first round of talks between Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani and Azerbaijani President Geydar Aliyev took place in Baku today. In these talks both sides discussed and exchanged views on the most important aspects of bilateral relations and on some key regional issues.

[Unidentified correspondent] Some of the key issues discussed by Hashemi-Rafsanjani and Geydar Aliyev were as follows: strengthening diplomatic cooperation; the Karabakh problem; the aggression of Armenia against Azerbaijan; more efficient utilization of resources in the Caspian Sea; expansion of cooperation within the framework of the ECO [Economic Cooperation Organization]; more extensive use of the Aras river; greater speed in completing the construction of the Khoda-Afarin joint dam; facilitating travel for the citizens of the two countries; expanding cooperation in the oil industry; and finally exchanging know-how in the areas of education and training.

In the first round of official talks between the two presidents, which took place in Azerbaijan's presidential palace this morning, Aliyev said: I am confident that the outcome of our talks, which will certainly culminate in the signing of a number of agreements, will benefit our Muslim nations and the region as a whole too. This is because we have a common history and cultural background, and our two nations have coexisted for many years. Moreover, the great and famous literary figures of both countries have played a significant role in developing and enriching global civilization.

He added: In economic, scientific, technical, and commercial fields and within the framework of the tourist industry and the formation of joint companies, the Republic of Azerbaijan seeks to deepen bilateral cooperation. We hope that through the initiative of the officials of the two countries, we will be able to consolidate our ties in many other areas.

In this round of talks the president of Azerbaijan informed Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani of a report on the latest developments in Azerbaijan's border areas with Armenia and continued Armenian aggression against Azerbaijan's territory.

Later he said: We hope in these difficult conditions the Islamic Republic of Iran will help the Republic of Azerbaijan; we also hope that the Islamic Republic of Iran will seriously continue its efforts to put an end to the aggression of Armenia.

Thanking the Azerbaijani Government and people for their warm welcome to the high-ranking Iranian delegation and also congratulating Aliyev on his election as president of Azerbaijan and the people of Azerbaijan on the occasion of the second anniversary of their independence, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: The continued aggression of Armenians against the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan is regrettable and a source of anxiety. We are certain that the aggressor will in the future regret his deeds because today the era of force and aggression has come to an end. The world of Islam will not allow such an event to create hostility and grudges between the nations of the region.

Referring to the efforts of the officials of the two countries to find ways and means for expanded cooperation.

our country's president said: The existing difficult wartime conditions make it imperative that the Islamic Republic of Iran provide more humanitarian assistance to the people of the Republic of Azerbaijan. However, in their basic work on cooperation the two countries must address issues that concern reconstruction and also deployment of vast joint resources to attain that important goal.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that common historical and religious bonds between the peoples of Iran and Azerbaijan would be the bedrock of the cooperation between the countries. He then added: The main fields of fruitful cooperation between the two countries include cooperation within the framework of the ECO, cooperation for utilization of the resources of the Caspian Sea, strengthening the shipping and transport facilities on that sea, linking the railway in the Iranian border town of Astara to Azerbaijan's Astara, strengthening the ECO, better utilization of the Aras border river, completion of work on Khoda-Afarin dam, more exchanges among people along the border, better border crossing facilities for the nationals of the two countries, and cooperation for oil in Caspian Sea and other regions.

### Leaders Comment After Talks

*NC2710201393 Baku TURAN in English 1043 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Baku, October 27 (TURAN)—An official meeting of the Iranian and Azeri delegations took place today at noon. Presidents G. Aliyev and A. Hashemi-Rafsanjani came out with speeches.

G. Aliyev said, that as a result of the latest aggression, the Armenian forces occupied a new Azeri territories. At present the fightings go on for some tens kms along the Iranian-Azeri border. So, the agressor have fully occupied Kubatlinskiy, Fizulinskiy and Dzherbrailskiy regions of the Republic. This morning a massive shelling of Zangelanskiy region by means of different guns started. There are a lot of victims among peaceful population. In spite of the numerous phone talks with the leaders of Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh, the Armenians keep advancing.

The appeals of Azerbaijan to the CSCE with the request to influence the Armenian party did not give results. Taking this into account, I beg you to use your popularity and to influence the Armenian party so that the offensive upon Azerbaijan was stopped.

In his reply speech the president of Iran said, that he was deeply concerned about the aggravation of the situation. He stressed, that the problem can not be solved by seizing the territories in our times.

Rafsanjani expressed his hope, that the situation will be normalized and the seized territories will be liberated.

[Baku TURAN in English at 0931 GMT on 27 October reports: "Touching upon the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict, A.A. Hashemi-Rafsanjani express his hope, that the Azerbaijani nation, with the help of Allah, could mobilize its forces and will repulse the enemy.

["To A.A.H. Rafsanjani's words, Iran as a neighbouring and brotherly state is very interested in the soonest restoration of peace and quietness in Azerbaijan. He said, that Iran will render a large-scale assistance to the brotherly Muslim nation and will share all the burden of hundreds of thousands of Azerbaijani refugees."]

### Statements on Armenian Offensive

*LD2710141593 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1245 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Sevindzh Abdullayeva and Viktor Shulman]

[Text] Baku, 27 Oct—The Armenian-Azerbaijani confrontation was the main topic at the official talks between Azerbaijani President Geydar Aliyev and Iranian President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi- Rafsanjani, held in Baku today. This was determined by the complex situation that has developed in recent days as a result of the resumption by Armenian armed formations of offensive operations in southwestern Azerbaijan. The leaders of both states noted that the Armenians had reached the Azerbaijani-Iranian border, simultaneously blockading the republic's Zangelanskiy Rayon in violation of the cease-fire accord.

The Iranian head of state voiced his concern over the fact that hostilities had reached his country's borders. "The Islamic world will not tolerate such a turn of events in this region," he stated. In the words of Hashemi-Rafsanjani, he is convinced that "very soon the Armenian leadership will realize the error of its policy." It was also noted that Iran continues to favor a complete halt to all hostilities in the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict zone and a political dialogue between the opposing sides to restore stability and peace in the region.

According to Geydar Aliyev, the Azerbaijani leadership's peacemaking efforts have not yet yielded desirable results despite numerous appeals to distinguished international organizations, and direct contacts with Nagorno-Karabakh and the Armenian leadership. This morning, Azerbaijan's Zangelanskiy Rayon was shelled yet again, and 60,000 lives of local citizens were in jeopardy. As the negotiations were attended by newsmen from leading foreign information agencies, the Azerbaijani leader again urged the world public to "stop the aggression on the republic's territory."

The negotiations also addressed different aspects of bilateral relations to which both countries attribute great importance. In this context, the sides deemed it necessary to announce that a large package of documents will be signed in Baku on the economic and cultural cooperation between Azerbaijan and Iran.

It has become known that the sides give priority in their relations to cooperation in transportation by rail and by sea, to the expansion of trade relations, and to jointly prospecting oil on the Caspian shelf. Cooperation of experts from both countries in resolving ecological issues and in other fields of research is also planned.

### Further Remarks

*LD2710153393 Tehran IRNA in English 1455 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Baku, Oct. 27, IRNA—The visiting Iranian President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, referring to renewed Armenian assault on Azerbaijan, said on Wednesday he was sure Armenians will one day regret their "unprincipled" actions and realize their mistakes.

"The Muslim world will not allow the recurrence of such events in the region that will cause trouble and fighting for years," the Iranian president cautioned.

The Iranian president made the remarks in a meeting with his Azeri counterpart Gaydar Aliyev and other high-ranking Azeri officials. He arrived here Tuesday on the last leg of his 5-nation tour of Central Asia.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani said that the Islamic Republic was assisting the people of Nakhichevan and southern Azerbaijan according to its Islamic and humanitarian duties.

Commenting on Tehran-Baku ties, Rafsanjani said "political cooperation between the two countries at regional level should lay a pattern for other countries."

He also called for expansion of cooepration between Iran and the Caspian Sea littoral states within the framework of the Economic Cooperation Organization and the newly-established Caspian Sea Cooperation Organization.

President Rafsanjani also underlined the importance of strengthening navigation in the Caspian Sea and linking the Azeri and Iranian railways.

President Aliyev, while briefing his Iranian counterpart on the latest Armenian attacks on Azeri territory, called on the Islamic Republic to do all within its power to stop Armenian aggression.

With the collapse of three Azeri border towns of Fizuli, Jibrail and Kubadly, the Armenian forces are in control of Azerbaijan's border line, Aliyev said, adding "it is expected that the Islamic Republic will not tolerate this act of the Armenian Government."

The Azeri president also said the two countries enjoyed great potential for expansion of bilateral ties in economic, cultural, commercial, tourism and transport fields.

Later, the two presidents, accompanied by the senior officials of the two countries, visited a branch of the National Bank of Iran in Baku. Governor of the Iranian Central Bank Mohammad Hoseyn 'Adeli briefed the two presidents on the functions of the bank and its role in accelerating trade exchnages between the two countries.

### Official: Regional Tour 'Very Positive'

*LD2710140093 Tehran IRNA in English 1338 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Baku, Oct., 27, IRNA—A senior official at Iran's Foreign Ministry here Tuesday appraised the outcome of President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani's visit to Central Asia as "very positive".

President Rafsanjani has already paid visits to Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan and is currently in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan.

The Foreign Ministry official in charge of Central Asia affairs, Mehdi Mohtashemi, told IRNA here yesterday that the visit resulted in "remarkable" political and economic achievements.

He said that the West had constantly tried to represent a distorted profile of Iran to the Central Asian states in order to prevent rapprochement of the republics to Iran.

Mohtashami noted that last year visit to Tehran of presidents of the four republics, within the framework of Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), removed the republic's negative outlook towards Iran.

Meanwhile, the visit to the republics of President Rafsanjani assured the republics of their future relations with Iran, he said.

The West was worried that the Islamic ideology and system may fill in the gap created by the collapse of communism in the said republics," said the official.

Implementation of the agreements in such fields as transportation and industry would enhance trade cooperation with the said countries and would also lead to the future broadening of economic relations, added the official.

### Visits Wounded Soldiers

*NC2710215393 Baku Azerbaycan Radio Televiziyasi Television Network in Azeri 1600 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Report by S. Ocakli—recorded]

[Text] [Ocakli] Iranian President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, who is on a visit to Azerbaijan, today met soldiers who were injured and disabled in the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict. He described the (?actions) of our brave sons who are fighting for the integrity of our lands as a courageous step toward Azerbaijan's independence and sovereignty. 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that Azerbaijan needs such heroes in its (?struggle) for justice. President Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that arms should only be used for defensive purposes and that those who use arms for aggression will eventually be punished. President Hashemi-Rafsanjani said he hopes that peace will be established in the region in the near future and that Azerbaijan will form sincere and good relations with all its neighbors. He noted that like us, the Islamic Republic of Iran was subjected to aggression for eight years, but eventually right and justice prevailed. He said that many of the regions damaged during the eight-year war have now been rebuilt.

The Azerbaijani president thanked 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani for visiting the injured soldiers and noted that many injured soldiers here have been (?treated) in Iran so far. Geydar Aliyev said he hopes that our medical relations with Iran will continue to improve.

[Aliyev] More than 10,000 people have been killed in the aggression by the Armenian forces against Azerbaijan, and more that 25,000 have been injured. The limbs of some of those injured have been (?amputated) as you can see [words indistinct]. But you have also observed that, despite the situation, their spirit of patriotism and heroism and their love has not vanished. We are grateful to you, to the Islamic Republic of Iran, and to your people for the constant concern you have shown and for the aid provided by your state, and by you personally, to us during our tragic and difficult time. I also convey my greetings to Ayatollah 'Ali Hoseyni Khamene'i in the name of the people who fought on the front lines, and I am sure that by continuing to develop our ties with you we will jointly extricate Azerbaijan from this grave situation.

### Visits Oil Refinery

*LD2710190293 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Excerpt] On the second day of his visit to the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani visited the Baku oil refinery today. During the president's visit to the refinery—where Azeribaijani President Gaydar Aliyev was also present—he was briefed on the extent of that country' oil production and oil technology.

In a speech for the Azeribaijani oil industry workers, Mr. Hashemi- Rafsanjani referred to the the role of specialization and technical know-how in the development of Islamic states. He stressed the need for specialization and scientific experiences commensurate with the needs of today. [passage omitted]

### Visits Iranian Bank, Attends Reception

*NC2810085493 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0430 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Telephone report by an unidentified correspondent from Baku—recorded]

[Text] Yesterday afternoon President Hashemi-Rafsanjani, accompanied by Azerbaijani President Geydar Aliyev, visited the Baku branch of Iran's Bank Melli, which has recently begun its operations. During the tour, the Bank Melli director general briefed the president on the bank's activities. President Hashemi-Rafsanjani thanked the bank's officials for their efforts to open the bank's Baku branch, which plays an effective role in the two countries' economic cooperation. During this visit, the presidents of the two countries signed the bank's special book of visitors.

To mark the visit by the high-ranking Iranian delegation to Baku, a dinner reception was given last night by Geydar Aliyev for our President Hashemi-Rafsanjani and the delegation accompanying him. The reception was attended by a large number of Azerbaijani officials and foreign ambassadors residing in Baku.

### Foreign Ministers Meet

*NC2710223193 Baku Azerbaycan Radio Televiziyasi Television Network in Azeri 1600 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Azerbaijani Foreign Minister Gasan Gasanov received Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati today, when they discussed international and regional issues of interest to the sides and the situation in our Republic.

Expressing Iran's position, Dr. Velayati said: Armenia must immediately end its occupationist aggression.

### Armenian Offensive in Southwest Said 'Weakening'

*NC2710182893 Baku TURAN in English 0859 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Baku, October 26 (TURAN)—TURAN's correspondent reports from Beylagan region of Azerbaijan, that the offensive of the Armenian armed forces in the south-west of Azerbaijan weakened today. The units of the Azeri Army seized the positions in the vicinity of Dashburun station of Agdzhabedinskiy region.

Cut off from the rest part of Azerbaijan by the attacking units of the armed forces of Armenia 60 thousand population of Zangelanskiy and partly Kubatlinskiy regions flees to Iran. Iranian powers transport them to Beylagan region of Azerbaijan. 70-years old dweller of Zangelanskiy region G. Dzhafarova said TURAN's reporter, that the Armenians incinerate all the houses in their region up to the Iranian border. She, for herself, as well as the other dwellers, could not fetch up even her clothes. TURAN's correspondent reports, that a lot of people lost their relatives. There are wounded and killed among the peaceful population. The refugees need warm clothes, medical aid, and medicines.

Today a part of the Zangelanskiy region's population held a picket in front of the building of the presidential apparatus in Baku. Then they held a rally in front of the Iranian Embassy in Baku. They demand that the Iranian powers take measures against the Armenian aggressors. Winter comes, and the position of more than a million of the Azeri refugees becomes tragic.

With the seizure of Zangelanskiy and Kubatlinskiy regions the Armenian armed forces have occupied the whole south-west part of the Azerbaijani Republic.

So, the occupied zone in the south runs along the border with the Islamic Republic of Iran. The Azeri leaders consider, that by this the aggression of Armenia in fact led to the internationalization of the conflict.

Russian ambassador in Azerbaijan Valter Shonia said TURAN's reporter, that Russia is ready to shoulder the burden of settlement of the conflict, and to act as a peacemaker. V. Shonia did not exclude the possibility of the participation of Russian troops in the peacemaking process. To his words, the separation of the warring parties can be made in the places of their direct opposition, where they shoot each other.

As known, as a result of the large-scale offensive of the armed forces of Armenia, started June 1993 by the seizure of Agdamskiy region, the line of opposition of the warring parties-the zone of the Armenian occupation covers 20 of the territory of Azerbaijan Republic, including Nagorno-Karabakh zone.

Turkish Ambassador to Azerbaijan Altan Karamanoglu said, that the actions of the Armenian soldiers are a challenge to the international community. To his words, the offensive of the Armenians on the eve of the CSCE mission's and President Hashemi- Rafsanjani's of Iran visit to Baku prove this version. A. Karamanoglu said, that Turkey carries out a line on promoting peaceful regulation of the conflict within the framework of the CSCE. He said, that the UN and the CSCE have to be the guarantors of this settlement.

Turkish Ambassador to Baku A. Karamanoglu also said, that the enter of the peacemaking forces into region could be carried out only after the liquidation of the consequences of the aggression of Armenia. A. Karamanoglu said, that the armed forces of Armenia have to liberate unconditionally all the occupied Azeri territories and only after this the entrance of the international peacemaking forces is possible. To his words, these forces have to be places not in Azerbaijan, but on the Azeri-Armenian border.

## Government on Armenian Advance, Refugees to Iran

*NC2710183093 Baku Azerbaycan Radio Televiziyasi Television Network in Azeri 1600 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] The Azerbaijani Defense Ministry has issued the following statement: Armenian Army units deployed in the occupied parts of Dzhebrailskiy and Fizulinskiy Rayons launched a large-scale offensive toward the Azerbaijan-Iran border supported by armored cars and under cover of fierce artillery shelling on 23 October.

Following bloody battles, the enemy sent our forces on the retreat on 24 and 25 October and occupied Goradiz railway station and over 30 settlements. With this, the link between Zangelanskiy and Imishlinskiy Rayons was cut and Zangelanskiy Rayon was surrounded. The enemy now controls (?70 km) of the Azerbaijani- Iranian border.

After violating Azerbaijan's state border on 25 October, the Armenian Armed Forces entered Zangelanskiy Rayon. The units attacking from Armenia's Megrinskiy Rayon (?occupied) the (Suburt) and (Bartaz) mountains, and the (Bejneli) and (Aghbent) settlements.

The enemy units advancing from Armenia's Kapanskiy Rayon supported by nearly 40 tanks occupied Brunlu, Shaitly, and (Kheyeli) settlements and reached the road leading to Zangelan.

The enemy moving out of Armenia's Gorisskiy Rayon and through the occupied regions of Kubatlinskiy Rayon (?occupied) Saldash, Chereli, Mollali, Khiyatli, Uvashli, Bilche, Agadzhchiler, Kelechan, (Bindi), Khochakhan, and (Agbik) settlements.

Some 60,000 peaceful citizens have taken refuge near the Iranian border. Units advancing from Armenia's Megrinskiy Rayon are preventing people from being transported across the Araks river. Many of those trying to enter Iran (?drowned) without reaching the other bank of the Araks.

As in the case of Lachinskiy, Kelbadzharskiy, Agdamskiy, Kubatlinskiy, and other occupied rayons, Azerbaijan has again come under the naked aggression of the militaristic Armenia. The world's failure to take radical measures against Armenia encourages the enemy not to respect the UN resolutions and to pursue its policy of occupation.

## Karabakh Army Announces Unilateral Cease-Fire 27 Oct

*PM2710205393 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2003 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] The situation in the zone of hostilities in eastern Nagorno-Karabakh remains difficult, the press service of the self proclaimed Republic of Nagorno-Karabakh informed. The Karabakh units announced unilateral suspension of the hostilities once again on the night of October 27th so that the Azerbaijani party could safely evacuate its remaining civilian population from the zone of hostilities. However, there were individual outbreaks of hostilities reported on Wednesday afternoon. The exact number of victims has not yet been reported.

The Karabakh army's intelligence says that Azerbaijani servicemen were leaving the area for Iranian territory together with civilians.

## Government Calls On World To Condemn Armenia

*LD2810100793 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0856 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Sevindzh Abdullayeva and Viktor Shulman]

[Text] Baku, 28 Oct—Azerbaijan calls on the world community to condemn Armenia's aggression against

Azerbaijan and to take emergency measures to stop the aggression in keeping with Chapter Seven of the UN Charter, reads a statement of the Azerbaijani Foreign Ministry put out by the AZERTAC agency today.

The ministry's statement is in connection with the latest incursion of the Armenian armed forces into Zangelan Rayon of Azerbaijan, situated in the border zone with Iran and Armenia dozens of kilometers from Nagorno-Karabakh.

The Azerbaijani Foreign Ministry "appraises this incursion as a flagrant act of aggression, directed at frustrating the negotiating process and frought with the danger of the conflict assuming international dimensions." The document states that the aim of this offensive is to complete the occupation of the southwest of Azerbaijan, begun in April this year with the seizure of Kelbadzhar Rayon.

The statement notes in particular that "all these actions by Armenia, which continues an open war against a sovereign state and member of the United Nations, expanding its annexation of the Azerbaijani territories are in contradiction to the cynical assertions of the neighboring republic that it desires to resolve the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict over Nagorn0-Karabakh by peaceful means."

## Official Accuses Armenia of Relying on Force

*LD2710205893 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1659 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Report by diplomatic correspondents Dmitriy Vosboynikov, Igor Porshnev, Vitaliy Trubetskoy, and others; from the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature]

[Text] The latest events in the Karabakh conflict have demonstrated that Armenia "intends to talk from the position of strength," a senior official in the Azerbaijani Foreign Ministry told Interfax. He thinks that all Armenia's contacts with his country "only mask aggressive plans." He emphasized that "as Armenian forces are capturing more land the Armenian negotiating positions are hardening."

In his view, "the myth that Armenia proper is not involved in the hostilities has been refuted" by the recent Armenian offensive resulting in "new flows of refugees and suffering of the civilian population." He added that "the myth built up for a long time by Armenian propaganda about the suffering people of Armenia and Karabakh has been dispelled by the latest events. ...If the population of Armenia does not have fuel, why was it in good supply to mount a large scale military operation?"

The diplomat described as absurd the Armenian allegations that Azerbaijan had violated the truce on October 21st and had been preparing an offensive. "If Azerbaijan had done so, it would have been prepared to repel the enemy attack and would not have been found in its present predicament," he said.

He questioned the Armenian logic saying that "to provide security for Nagorno-Karabakh the Armenians are prepared to capture the whole of Azerbaijan, including those parts where no troops are stationed and which cannot pose a threat to Karabakh Armenians."

The diplomat expressed the hope that "the world community will pass a judgement on what the Armenian forces are doing." He emphasized that the CSCE with its mechanisms cannot contribute to resolving the conflict as far as cease-fire supervision and peace- keeping operations are concerned. The stay of Margaret af Ugglas, the CSCE chairperson, in the region has confirmed this." The Russian peace mission cannot do much, either, he thinks. He recalled that whatever its head, Russian president's envoy Vladimir Kazimirov, did, he "could not achieve a serious positive result because nothing specific can be extracted from the Armenian capital."

The Azerbaijani official did not rule out the possibility that "Azerbaijan will have to ask a foreign country for help." He also denied statements made by Nagorno-Karabakh spokesmen that "Azerbaijan is trying to expand the area of conflict and increase the number of parties involved in it." He explained that this would not serve Azerbaijan's interests.

## CSCE Official Meets Government Leaders, Officials

### Discusses Peace Plan With Gasanov

*NC2710180293 Baku TURAN in English 0859 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Baku, October 26 (TURAN)—Today at the second half of the day the CSCE Chairman Margaretha af Ugglas met with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan Gasan Gasanov.

At the receival in honour of M.A. Ugglas, G. Gasanov said, that the CSCE peaceful plan have to be implemented without infringing the national interests of Azerbaijan. To his words, the approach of Azerbaijan to the settlement of the conflict is based upon the priority of the principals of territorial integrity and sovereignty of the state.

G. Gasanov agreed with the point of view of [deputy chairman of the Minsk conference] Mario Sica that, if the situation in Azerbaijan won't improve, holding the Minsk conference loses its purport.

G. Gasanov told TURAN's reporter, that military operations are stopped by present. To his words, as a result of the latest offensive of the Armenian Armed Forces the war, in fact, moved on the territory of Iran. G. Gasanov did not exclude the possibility of a special statement of the Iranian party on this matter.

Mrs. M.A. Ugglas said the reporters, that the CSCE is deeply concerned about the latest actions of the Armenian Armed Forces. As M.A. Ugglas also said, the CSCE will discuss the question of rendering a large-scale assistance to the Azeri refugees.

### Meets With State Secretary, Azeri Leader

*NC2710212493 Baku TURAN in English 0931 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Baku, October 27 (TURAN)—Last evening, in conclusion of her visit to Baku M.A. Ugglas, the acting president of the CSCE met with the State Secretary L. Gadzhiyeva and the head of the Azeri community of Nagorno-Karabakh N. Bahmanov.

During the meeting M.A. Ugglas and L. Gadzhiyeva discussed the situation, arose in Azerbaijan as a result of the latest Armenian offensive.

L. Ghadzhiyeva said, that in case the efforts of the international organizations on peaceful regulation of the Azeri- Armenian conflict turned to be non-effective, then Azerbaijan will be compelled to use force to answer on force.

The head of the Azeri community of Nagorno-Karabakh N. Bahmanov told M.A. Ugglas, that as a result of the Armenian aggression, the 50-thousand Azeri population of Nagorno-Karabakh is expatriated by present. He stressed the tragic fate of the Azeri refugees.

M.A. Ugglas said in her turn, that the international community can't be indifferent towards the tragedy of innocent people. To her words, the CSCE intends to discuss the question on rendering a large-scale assistance to the Azeri refugees.

## Georgia

### Government Troops Mistakenly Attack Russian Post

### Three Russians Wounded

*LD2710095493 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0858 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Gondusov]

[Text] Moscow, 27 Oct—Three Russian border guards were wounded during a bombing strike against the military compound of the 8th border outpost of the Sukhumi border troops detachment. The raid was carried out by two Su-25 planes yesterday evening. The detachment is stationed at Anaklia, 30 kilometers from Zugdidi. The press office of the Russian border troops told ITAR-TASS today that the commander of the border outpost was seriously wounded. Buildings in the military compound were damaged.

At the same time, troops landed from four helicopters in the vicinity of the outpost. The border guards were forced to take up defensive positions and open fire. According to preliminary information, the bombing strike against the Russian border outpost was inflicted by Georgian Government forces. The possibility that they made a mistake during an operation to destroy supporters of ex-President Gamsakhurdia is not being ruled out.

The command of the North Caucasus border district is taking steps to evacuate the wounded and to reinforce the outpost. Two border patrol boats have been stationed just off shore. According to the same source, this is the second time Georgian Government troops have inflicted a strike of this kind on Russian border guards. On 10 October a Su-25 fired missiles at border outpost No 1 of the Sukhumi border guards detachment, which is located at Poti.

### Shevardnadze Apologizes to Post

*NC2710185493 Yerevan SNARK in English 0846 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Tbilisi, October 21 (SNARK)—The frontier post of Russian Troops accidentally was shelled by the Georgian formations during the battle between the followers of Gamsakhurdia and the governmental troops. SNARK was informed by the trustworthy sources from the authorities of the group of Russian troops in Transcaucasia. It happened near Anaklia settlement (3 kilometers far from the border with Abkhazia and 30 kilometers on the North from Poti) on October 26. The 8th frontier post of Sukhumi Border Forces Division of North Caucasian Border Forces was at the center of the battle and shelled both from air and was under the cross fire. The post was accidentally attacked by two Su-25 fighter crafts of Georgian aircraft. As results of it two soldiers and Vladimir Chernenkov, the commander of the post, were wounded. Eduard Shevardnadze, the Georgian leader, has expressed the regret on the accident.

### Reaction to Attack

*AU2710132393 Paris AFP in English 1314 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Excerpts] Tbilisi, Oct 27 (AFP)—[passage omitted] In an incident complicating efforts to end the chaos in western Georgia, Georgian paratroopers backed by warplanes reportedly attacked a Russian garrison in the region, despite an official alliance between the two sides against the Gamsakhurdia rebels. [passage omitted]

The chief of staff of Russia's border guard units, responsible for the Russian troops in Georgia, accused Shevardnadze of ordering the attack in a bid to force Russia to withdraw its soldiers from the country. [passage omitted]

Observers said the latest attack on the Russian units could jeopardize the implementation of a collective security agreement between Georgia and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

The agreement, signed after Georgia joined the CIS Saturday, called for Russian, Armenian and Azerbaijani troops to help guard vital supply lines throughout Georgia. [passage omitted]

## Fighting Against Zviadists in West Continues

### 'Extremely Complex' Situation in Poti

*LD2710152893 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1400 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Mr. Roman Melia [mayor of Poti until the town was captured by Gamsakhurdia forces] today reported from the Poti mayor's office to the CONTACT news agency that the town was completely paralyzed and the situation was extremely complex.

All this has been caused by the activities of armed gangs. The town has been pillaged. All transport has been stolen. The mayor's and commandant's offices are without a single car, not even a truck. There is not even a drop of fuel available. The sea port, offices and enterprises are not working. The town's economy is in effect devastated. The damage is great.

There is tension among the population because of quite a few incidents of robbery. In fact, to bring the town back to normal, all work must be started from scratch.

Extra forces have entered Poti to defend and reinforce the town.

### State Forces Capture Khobi

*LD2710163893 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1600 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] According to CONTACT NEWS AGENCY, government troops captured the town of Khobi this evening.

### 'Marauding' Continues in Senaki

*LD2710182093 Tbilisi First Program Television Network in Georgian 1700 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Excerpt] At about 1900, armed government forces occupied the town of Senaki. There were dead and wounded on both sides. The military commandant's office in the town of Senaki opened as early as last night. Colonel Zurab Jincharadze was appointed to head the office.

We cannot claim that peace has prevailed since last night's combat activities ended. Marauding causes difficulties for both the local population and the authorities.

When fleeing, armed supporters of Zviad Gamsakhurdia left behind several carriages full of shells and ammunition at Senaki railway station. According to available information, this cargo was presumably sent here by the Gudauta group from Abkhazia. [passage omitted]

### State Forces Advance on Zugdidi

*LD2810095693 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0900 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Early today, Georgian Government forces who had occupied the western town of Khobi on Wednesday evening, advanced to the settlement of Tsatskhvi, 12 km from Zugdidi, the stronghold of former president Zviad Gamsakhurdia's supporters. INTERFAX was informed of this by the press centre of Georgia's Ministry of Defense. The Georgian military command once again demands that the Zviadists cease their resistance and lay down their weapons, in order to avoid fresh casualties among the population. According to the press center, however, Gamsakhurdia's supporters at Zugdidi are preparing to resist the government troops. The approaches to the town are being fortified, while men in Zugdidi are being forced to take up arms.

### Gamsakhurdia Reportedly Still in War Zone

*LD2710122893 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1100 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Report from Tbilisi by IPRINDA agency correspondent Nikolay Mamulashvili]

[Text] In the opinion of military experts, after Army units dislodge the Gamsakhurdia supporters from the town of Senaki we should be expecting government troops to move onward, deep into the territory controlled by the Zviadists, toward the towns of Khobi and Zugdidi. These towns, particularly the latter, have been thoroughly reinforced. The supporters of the former president are putting up obstacles and putting up a lot of fortifications.

As for the Senaki operation, on the morning of 27 October, Valerian Gogolashvili, head of the press center of Georgia's Interior Ministry, said from the town of Samtredi that during the battles, eight people on the side of the government troops were wounded. Four of these are in a serious condition. He also added that police units had come into Senaki. As in other towns of the region, the guardians of law and order will be carrying out operations against groups, formations, and looters.

Many people are now asking the question: Where is former president of Georgia Zviad Gamsakhurdia? Teymur Shashiashvili, the mayor of the town of Kutaisi, said in a telephone conversation with me on the morning of 27 October that, according to the information he had, Gamsakhurdia was in the battle zone. The mayor of Kutaisi also mentioned an interesting fact: on 26 October, an aircraft from the Georgian Armed Forces, which had carried out a reconnaisance flight over the town of Senaki, on its return to base all but collided in the air with a Yak-40 civil aircraft that had taken off from Senaki airfield. The military aircraft was almost out of fuel, so the pilot was unable, as they say, to get to grips with the Yak and track its flight. Time will tell what this aircraft was and who was on it.

### Reportedly Prepared To Flee to Russia

*AU2710132193 Paris AFP in English 1259 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Tbilisi, Oct 27 (AFP)—Former Georgian president Zviad Gamsakhurdia was preparing to flee his home region in western Georgia Wednesday as government troops closed in to crush a rebellion by his followers, a Georgian minister said.

Security Minister Yegor Georgadze told AFP he had received confirmed reports that Gamsakhurdia would soon leave western Georgia for Russia via the breakaway Abkhazia region.

He added that it would probably take "three or four more days" for government troops to capture Zugdidi, Gamsakhurdia's home town and the base from which he launched his rebellion last month.

Government forces regained control Tuesday of the nearby village of Senaki and were fighting to take Khobi, the last village before Zugdidi.

### Reportedly Flees Zugdidi

*LD2710201593 Moscow ITAR TASS World Service in Russian 1950 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[By unidentified GIA correspondent for TASS]

[Text] Tbilisi, 27 Oct—According to reports from the headquarters of the government troops deployed in western Georgia, the armed formations of Zviad Gamsakhurdia abandoned the towns of Senaki and Khobi around 2100 after fighting.

According to preliminary information, the ex-president has fled from Zugdidi.

## Russian General Denies Participation in Conflict

*LD2710204093 Tbilisi First Program Television Network in Georgian 1700 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] The "Alioni" TV program invited Major-General Vassiliy Levchenko [name as heard], deputy commander in chief of the Transcaucasian Group of Russian Troops, today. I will stress to you the general's answers to two very interesting questions.

The first question was: How is this group of Russian troops fulfilling the head of Georgian state's request and the instruction of the Russian leadership to guard major routes?

The second one: How true is Georgia's former president's protest that these troops allegedly back the Georgian Government in military activities carried out in Western Georgia?

[Begin Levchenko recording] We have been instructed to draw up a plan for guarding and defending the Poti-Kutaisi-Tbilisi major railroad and highway routes. Such a plan has now been drawn up. According to the preliminary scheme suggested by the head of state, this plan is to be implemented by Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Russia. Yesterday, sections to be guarded by the troops were not very accurately named. Such sections and the problems of who and where they are to operate have already been defined in principle. The only remaining thing is to wait for an order. Whether or not the order will be issued depends on the governments. But the troops are ready to implement it.

I think that this is simply an attempt to render desirable as real. Russian troops are not participating. Only Georgian Government troops are carrying out combat activities. I have said it repeatedly and I again reiterate: They are able to cope with their task themselves.

Russian troops are not participating in this conflict. And in spite of former president Gamsakhurdia's strenuous efforts to involve us in the conflict, nothing will come out of it. Because there are no Russian servicemen there.

The other thing is that, as our defense minister said in an interview in Finland, if a military treaty is signed between Georgia and Russia, the position of the Russian troops will become different under international obligations. [end recording]

## Shevardnadze Discusses Security With Russian Officer

*PM2610140993 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Oct 93 p 3*

[Vitaliy Alekseyev and Kiril Petrov report: "Tbilisi Hopes That Russian Military Will 'Blaze' Trail to Senaki and Zugdidi. But Staff of Group of Russian Forces in the Transcaucasus Does Not Believe That"]

[Text] During a meeting in Georgia's parliament Eduard Shevardnadze admitted that several months ago he met with Colonel Loti Kobaliya, commander of the "Zviadists'" armed detachments. Eduard Shevardnadze did not reveal the details of the meeting and hinted that his enemies should not expect concessions. "We have no intention of taking revenge," the Georgian head of state said, addressing the former president's supporters, "surrender and we will forgive everything." But Shevardnadze did say that his words do not apply to Zviad Gamsakhurdia and Loti Kobaliya.

Eduard Shevardnadze met with Major General Yuriy Baluyevskiy, chief of staff of the Group of Russian Forces in the Transcaucasus [GRFT] 23 October. The meeting took place behind closed doors. KRASNAYA ZVEZDA managed to learn that the GRFT staff and the Georgian authorities hope that GRFT subunits will come first and clear the way to Zugdidi and Senaki for government troops. The GRFT staff stressed that these hopes are unfounded: if Russian troops take part in events in Western Georgia, it will only be as part of a peacekeeping action to lift the blockade on the Poti-Tbilisi railroad.

A GRFT staff operations group has been set up to implement the peacekeeping action. KRASNAYA ZVEZDA learned that GRFT subunits and an Armenian battalion of around 900 men are ready to perform their mission. Admittedly, some disagreements have arisen over the proposed plan to lift the railroad blockade. The intention is that the Armenian battalion will guard the sector from Poti to Kutaisi, while GRFT subunits will take the Kutaisi-Tbilisi stretch and an Azerbaijani battalion will guard the stretch from Tbilisi to the Armenian border. KRASNAYA ZVEZDA learned that Yerevan does not agree with this plan.

An ITAR-TASS correspondent reported that government troops took Poti 25 October.

### Presidential Official Sets Conditions for Talks

*NC2710153193 Yerevan SNARK in English 0854 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Tbilisi, October 27 (SNARK)—"Georgia will not negotiate with those who have made the bloody conflict in Abkhazia. Eduard Shevarnadze is ready to begin a dialogue with Sukhumi only if in the negotiations Abkhazia is represented by the people who have not taken part in the military crimes, connected with the peaceful inhabitants, and on the condition that the Georgians return to their home places." Zaza Kandelaky, the press-secretary of the Georgian President Press-Service, said in its SNARK interview. Meanwhile, he expressed the opinion that the settlement of the Abkhazian conflict is a complicated process.

Answering to the question on the attitude of the Georgian leadership toward the statement of the South-Ossetian Republic Parliament Head Chibirov on October 25, in which it was said that this Republic was going to join the North Ossetia and to enter Russia, Kandelaky said: "It is unrealistic. People, who make such kind of statements, benefit profit."

Touching upon the question on the railroads and highways guarding by the joint military forces of Russia, Armenia and Azerbaijan, Zaza Kandelaky noticed that as long as in the western Georgia there are military actions it is no quite advisable action. "In this case the extra problems might emerge," he noticed.

### Patsatsia, Iranian Envoy Discuss Refugees Issue

*LD2710190093 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1800 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Tbilisi October 27 GIA-TASS—"Although there are more than four million refugees on Iranian territory, the government of that country has found the possibility to send 80 tons of food to help Georgians who fled from Abkhazia," Iranian charge d'affaires Fereidun Khakbin told Georgian Prime Minister Otar Patsatsia during their meeting here today.

As concerns short-term perspective, "an Iranian bank will open in Tbilisi soon, and a direct air link will be established between Tehran and Tbilisi. As soon as the political situation in Georgia stabilizes, more Iranian private firms will join 25 companies from that country which are already cooperating with Georgia", the Iranian charge d'affaires said.

Prime Minister Otar Patsatsia expressed the hope that close ties with foreign countries will help Georgia pull out of the grave political and economic crisis.

### Iran Offers Relief Aid for Abkhazian Refugees

*LD2710225593 Tehran IRNA in English 2050 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Moscow, Oct. 27, IRNA—The Islamic Republic is willing to send more than 80 tons of humanitarian aid to disloged Abkhazis, the Iranian charge d'affaires to Tblisi, Fereidn Haqbin, said to the Georgian Prime Minister Otar Patsatsia Wednesday.

The prime minister of Georgia welcomed the offer by the Iranian envoy and said that any Iranian support for the territorial integrity of Georgia would be very valuable to the people of that country.

He referred to the mutual feelings of the officials of the two countries for broadening their relations, and said that the opening in Tblisi of the Iranian Embassy was a big stride forward in the rlations between Iran and Georgia.

The Georgian prime minister welcomed any help by the Islamic Republic in national reconstruction projects in Georgia.

Earlier upon an appeal from Georgian head of state Eduard Shevardnadze, the Iranian Red Crescent had sent relief aid for Georgians displaced in the civil strife in that country.

In addition to the tussle for power between the government in Tbilisi and ousted President Zviad Gamsakhurdia, the Abkhazians in the northwestern parts of Georgia are fighting for a separate homeland.

### Germany's Kohl Supports Territorial Integrity

*LD2710201793 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1731 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Germany decisively stands for preserving the territorial integrity of Georgia. This was pointed out in a letter from German Chancellor Helmut Kohl to Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze.

The German Government and the German people especially sympathize with those who have suffered from military confrontation in Abkhazia, the letter says.

The chancellor reassured that the German Government together with the EC partners would try to continue the supplying of humanitarian aid to the population which suffered from the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict.

Having expressed his gratitude for the congratulations offered by Georgia on the occasion of Germany's unification, Kohl emphasized that Shevardnadze's contribution to this "could not be forgotten."

Shevardnadze was Soviet foreign minister at the time of Germany's unification in October, 1990.

## Estonia

### Velliste Notes Christopher Offer on Troops' Housing

*LD2810075493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0722 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Albert Maloveryan]

[Text] Tallinn October 28 TASS—"The United States is prepared to give both moral and material support to Russian servicemen withdrawn from the Baltic states by allocating 190 million dollars for the construction of houses for them in Russia," Foreign Minister Trivini Velliste told journalists upon arrival from Riga, where he met with the U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

Velliste declared that Estonia was prepared to sign a contract with Russia to build the houses.

In his opinion, this will help to save funds since Estonian qualified workers are paid less than workers from other foreign countries. Besides, Estonian workers are better acquainted with specific Russian conditions, having sufficient experience in building houses in Russia's different regions.

According to Velliste, giving the job to Estonian workers will help slow down the growth of unemployment in Estonia, and especially, in its north-east regions predominantly populated by Russians and where the shortage of work places is strongly felt.

### Delegation Seeks Investment From Dutch Firms

*BR2710144293 Amsterdam DE VOLKSKRANT in Dutch 27 Oct 93 p 2*

[Article by Geert-Jan Bogaerts: "Estonia Now Depends on Finland—Delegation From Baltic State Is Looking for Investors in Companies To Be Privatized"]

[Text] The Hague—"We used to have one big brother, now we have two. Estonia has exchanged one dependency for another. At first we looked to Russia for all our needs; now Finland is threatening to monopolize our market. That is why we have come to the Netherlands: To try to interest Netherlands investors in our country."

I. Raig, president of the economic committee of Estonia's parliament, speaks bluntly. He is here to give a sales talk. Yesterday, he tried to sell his country to the members of the permanent parliamentary committee for economic affairs; today, he and his colleagues will speak before a symposium of businesspeople, bankers, and investors.

"We want to reach a situation where more Netherlands investors come to Tallinn, besides Paktank, the subsidiary of the Rotterdam harbor company Pakhoed," Raig said. "There are 30 other companies active in our country, but Paktank accounts for 90 percent of Netherlands investments. The rest are very small investors, which have put their money in trading activities in particular. Philips and Fokker are coming to the symposium too. We must have them," Raig said directly.

The soft-spoken delegation leader, Vice Prime Minister L. Hanni, does not stand out as much, but is just as strongly convinced. In the government she is responsible for economic reforms in the most northern of the three Baltic states. It is not an enviable job: The problems were immense last year, when the 1.6 million inhabitants definitively elected a parliament and government which wanted far-reaching reforms. Inflation was 30 percent per month, the economy had collapsed, and the trading channels with former communist partners were completely broken.

Hanni's efforts do not seem to have been useless. Inflation is now 30 percent annually. The Netherlands economy is still 250 times bigger than Estonia's, but the economic decline has in the meantime been brought to a standstill. The government budget is balanced and there is once again a surplus in the trade balance. Estonia is even being praised by the IMF.

Only unemployment is developing in the wrong direction: In 1991 only 0.1 percent of the working population were unemployed; last year that increased to 1.8 percent, this year it will be 2.6 percent, and next year 3.2 percent. However, that is quite good in comparison with many other former communist countries, which often have unemployment rates in the double digits.

Hanni and Raig also have something concrete to offer in their sales tour: 40 or so state companies in building, wood processing, and the machine industry. "On Monday the third international privatization round started," Hanni said. "The first was not very successful, and the second more so; 55 of the 90 state companies have been sold and the second round is still continuing."

Estonians now own 40 percent of state property. It was mostly the smaller companies that were sold, as there is insufficient capital in the country to privatize the larger companies. In Estonia a company with 100 employees is big.

In addition, for a privatization campaign to be successful among the Estonians it is necessary that they are confident in their own currency, and in the financial institutions which are to carry out the transactions.

There has been confidence in the Estonian kroon since last May, when it entered an unbreakable exchange rate of 8 to 1 German marks, but the banks are distrusted, because three commercial banks have gone bankrupt since November 1992.

"That is a big problem," Hanni admits. "Building new institutions is a big priority. We are now setting up a new banking system. The central bank has drawn up criteria which must be met by the commercial banks. Next year we hope to be ready with legislation for investment funds, and we think that we will also be able to set up a stock exchange. Slowly, confidence must return."

The vice prime minister said that the main opportunities for the Baltic state were in the traditional industries of food and wood processing. "Our beautiful country" also had every chance in tourism, she said.

"And finally Estonia can sell itself with other services," she concluded mysteriously. Like? "Hospitals, for example," she said. "The Finns love our health resorts, which are far cheaper than in their own country."

### IMF Grants $32 Million Credit for Economic Reforms

*LD2810110293 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 0700 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] The International Monetary Fund has approved a credit of $32 million to Estonia. Of this amount, 16 million will be available to the Estonian Government at any time before March 1995 to support economic reforms. The rest will be available if the reforms continue successfully. In the IMF's opinion, economic reforms in Estonia aimed at stabilizing the economy have been proceeding successfully. The slowdown of inflation, from 36 percent a month in the first half of 1992 to 2 percent a month in the third quarter of the current year, is seen as Estonia's biggest achievement.

It is also noted that even if the decline in production has stabilized and signs have appeared over the past few months that things are improving, further progress is required in order to create conditions for a stable and inflation-free growth and (?continued) reforms.

### Laar Admits Cabinet Disagreements With Pro Patria

*WS2710154493 Tallinn BNS in English 1712 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] Tallinn, Oct 26, BNS—Prime Minister Mart Laar confirmed at a press conference Tuesday [26 October] that there are differences of opinion between the Cabinet and some members of Pro Patria's parliamentary faction

"The disagreements concern how to proceed and act, not where to go and what to do," the premier said. "I believe some differences of opinion are a natural part of a democratic society in which the government and the legislators may not always agree on the ways and pace of progress."

Laar noted that "the Cabinet, too, should, in the future, better substantiate its course of action."

The premier cautioned observers against reducing the disagreements to a personal level.

The changes in the Pro Patria faction's leadership "may improve cooperation between the Cabinet and the faction," he said.

The prime minister affirmed that all the parliamentary factions are going to elect new leaders and that the Pro Patria elections are nothing out of the ordinary.

### Riigikogu Fatherland Faction Elects New Leaders

*LD2710115993 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1000 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] The news has just reached us that the Fatherland faction in the Riigikogu has elected its new board. The faction's chairman is Tiit Sinissaar and deputies are Karin Jaani and Kalle Jurgenson. This is what our correspondent reports from Toompea.

## Latvia

### Secretary Christopher Arrives in Riga

*LD2610215693 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 2100 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Excerpt] In the past day Riga awaited and welcomed a distinguished guest, the secretary of state of the United States of America, Warren Christopher, who is on a tour of the former republics of the Soviet Union, and who on 26 October arrived on a working visit to the Latvian capital. At Riga airport the distinguished guest was welcomed by Latvian Foreign Minister Georgs Andrejevs and the U.S. ambassador to Latvia, Ints Silins. Immediately after arriving, Warren Christopher made a brief statement to the representatives of the Latvian and foreign media. [passage omitted]

### Gylys Previews Talks

*WS2710142393 Tallinn BNS in English 1057 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Riga, Oct 27, BNS—Lithuania's Foreign Minister Povilas Gylys says he intends to raise the issue of security in the Baltic region during his talks today with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

Security matters are especially pressing because of the concentration of Russian troops in the neighboring Kaliningrad region and Russia's delays in completing the withdrawal of Russian units from Latvia and Estonia, he said.

"I intend to raise the issue in the hope of...a contribution by Western countries, primarily the U.S.A., to stabilizing the region," the minister said.

The minister described relations between his country and Russia as quite favorable. Even though the latest developments in Russia prevented the presidents of the two countries from meeting, their negotiations continue and a whole package of agreements and treaties is in the making.

## Christopher Meets Russian Speakers

*LD2710112493 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1000 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] This morning, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher met representatives of the Russian-speaking population of Latvia. As to what (?was said) at the meeting, one of the participants in the meeting, Aleksey Grigoryev, expressed the view that Russia could not play the part of a third force, fomenting discord between the Russian-speaking population of Latvia and the native population of the country. In Grigoryev's view, such a role could be taken on by the United States. Describing the experience of the Russian- speakers in Latvia, Grigoryev explained that in recent times, this situation had gotten worse, although it is not so bad as there is no shooting in the streets. Altogether, six representatives of the Russian-speakers met Christopher, including spokesmen for the Association for the Defense of Human Rights and the Equal Rights movement. At 1000 hours, the guest was received by Latvian President Guntis Ulmanis and somewhat later by Prime Minister Valdis Birkavs. At present, at the Cabinet of Ministers there is a meeting between Warren Christopher and the foreign ministers of Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia. In half an hour's time, also at the cabinet, there will be a joint news conference.

## Christopher Meets Baltic Ministers

*LD2710175793 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1400 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Report on U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's meeting with Baltic foreign ministers including interview with Inese Birzniece, chairwoman of Latvia's Saeima Commission on Human Rights by correspondent Janis Podins in Riga on 27 October]

[Text] Political event number one today in Latvia was undoubtedly the visit of U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

We have already mentioned this subject, but will now continue to report in more detail about Warren Christopher's visit to Latvia. Warren Christopher also met the foreign ministers of the three Baltic countries. After the meeting, the U.S. secretary of state noted at a news conference that the foreign ministers of Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia, had discussed issues relating to the withdrawal of Russian troops from the Baltic countries. Warren Christopher gave an assurance that the Government of the United States favors a rapid and organized withdrawal of the Army from the Baltics and Estonia, from Latvia and Estonia. U.S. President Bill Clinton has announced the allocation of $500,000 for the construction of housing for those Russian soldiers who leave the Baltic countries.

Estonian Foreign Minister Trivimi Velliste pointed out at the news conference that the withdrawal of Russian troops from the territory of Estonia by the end of the year was a realistic timetable. He also emphasized that the allocated aid is sufficient only for the provision of housing space for Russian soldiers in Russia. For his part, Lithuanian Foreign Minister Povilas Gylys pointed out that regardless of the fact that the Russian Army has already left Lithuanian territory, they still do not feel safe, as in Estonia there is the Paldiski nuclear reactor, in Latvia the Skrunda radar station, and next to Lithuania is the Kaliningrad region.

Straight after the news conference, we invited to the microphone Inese Birzniece, the chairwoman of the Saeima Commission on Human Rights, as she took part in the three Baltic foreign ministers' talks with the U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

Asking Inese Birzniece about what was said in this discussion was journalist Janis Podins.

[Begin recording] [Podins] What was the main emphasis in this discussion by the foreign ministers?

[Birzniece] Security questions. There was much talk of how America is convinced that it will go on (?pressing) Russia for the Army to be completely withdrawn. There was the issue of NATO security questions, let us say, the role of NATO. (?The consultations) touched on an explanation of President Clinton's proposal of cooperation for peace. (?In fact only) certain Eastern European countries are (?involved). (?And it was accepted) that it is not discriminating one (?against) the other, and prioritizing countries, and that means that Russia [words indistinct], that as we understand it that [word indistinct] Russia can take part—also very importantly he emphasized, as we raised the question as to how [words indistinct] Andrejevs about this question, that in no circumstances can we accept Russia taking part in any peace corps in the Baltic countries with its troops. The Americans support us very much and understand us.

[Podins] But what did you (?actually hear)? I am thinking that you specialize in human rights, as chairwoman of the Saeima Commission. At this discussion, what did you, the three Baltic foreign ministers, and people close to them, and the U.S. secretary of state, actually speak about regarding human rights? How deeply was this issue covered, and what can we understand? How well is the secretary of state of the United States of America informed about all our problems?

[Birzniece] I cannot judge (?merely) from the meeting: (?I would need) more, longer, deeper meetings with other representatives of the American Government, from the State Department, because you cannot say much in a (?few) minutes, and even from that, I know that he has very thorough, correct information, so we can (?maintain) regular contacts with our ambassador, Ojars Kalnins. I am convinced that they have [word indistinct] information. Well, simply, it is (?no secret) that he met representatives of Russian groups in Latvia to (?get a critical viewpoint) today, but also [words indistinct] representative from Latvia. But to [word indistinct] answer this question. He believes that it is important.

that our rights are to be observed according to international norms. I responded that we understand that well, and (?in our legislation) on citizenship, and that we are trying to settle the larger problem, (?on citizenship), that there is a lack of information. It is all at the level of rumor and exaggeration. They are unable to stress to them and most of their colleagues that the question is not an ethnic one, it is one of citizenship. It is Latvia's [word indistinct] and we [words indistinct] and non-citizens against [words indistinct]. [end recording]

Today the first page of the newspaper NEATKARIGA CINA blames the press center at the Foreign Ministry for the fact that at least 200,000 residents of the republic [word indistinct] the distinguished guest, although [word indistinct] about Warren Christopher. The fact is due to the NEATKARIGA CINA photographer having his accreditation withdrawn.

It reports that in view of the great interest in the visit of Secretary of State Warren Christopher, the press center of the Foreign Ministry had applications for accreditation from representatives of more than 70 of the world's most important mass media.

Prevailing practice decrees that on visits by distinguished officials, for security reaspons, the maximum permitted number of journalists is regulated by the relevant country's state security services, in this case the U.S. Secret Service.

All over the world there exists a tradition that in reporting on a visit of this kind, the mass information media work successfully together, thus providing complete information for their audiences. In this case the representatives of the Latvian press tried to [word indistinct]. That was announced today by the press center of the Foreign Ministry of the Republic of Latvia.

### Christopher Stresses Russian Withdrawal

*LD2710154593 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1400 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Today, meeting with Prime Minister Valdis Birkavs, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher once again confirmed his country's unequivocal support for Latvia's demand for the swift withdrawal of the Russian troops. The United States will use its authority unceasingly to remind the Russian Government about the need for a more rapid solution to this problem.

The U.S. Congress has assigned $160 million for material support for the withdrawal of Russian troops from the countries of the former USSR. At present it is not clear how great a portion of these funds can be claimed by Latvia. The U.S. Administration is ready to hear our country's views about the possible conditions for the use of this sum. The Latvian Government believes it is important to ensure that the money allotted for housing construction actually reaches those for whom it is intended. In Birkavs' view, one of the solutions would be to link this process with the return of Latvians from Russia to their homeland.

Touching on the problem of the Skrunda radar station, Christopher rejected rumors about a possible secret agreement between Russia and the United States on the future preservation of this site in Latvia. Birkavs emphasized that the retention of any Russian site on its territory is unacceptable to Latvia.

There was also discussion of how long it will take to dismante the Skrunda radar station, for which time Latvia would need international security guarantees. Christopher was also interested in the settling of the citizenship issue in Latvia. He expressed the hope that the Saeima will be able to choose the best of the drafts for the citizenship law.

Today the U.S. secretary of state was received by Latvian President Guntis Ulmanis. But before that, Christopher met representatives of the Russian-speaking minority nationality. After this meeting, one of the participants, freelance journalist Aleksey Grigoryev, announced that the Latvian Government and Saeima are not taking account of the recommendations of international organizations for the solution of the human rights and citizenship issue in Latvia. Grigoryev explained that the implementation of these recommendations is in essence also the solution of the problems of citizenship and the Russian speakers in Latvia.

During the meeting, representatives of the Russian-speaking minority nationality expressed the view that the United States could be a third force in the settling of the problem of the Russian speakers in Latvia. As Grigoryev reported, during the meeting Christopher announced that a spokesman for the mission to Latvia of the CSCE could possibly be an American. In Christopher's view, this would promote the solution of the problem.

The U.S. secretary of state also met the foreign ministers of the Baltic countries, but just before three o'clock he flew off from Riga airport on his way back home.

### News Conference Follows Talks

*LD2710173993 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1711 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Galina Kuchina]

[Text] Riga October 27 TASS—"The United States welcomes the withdrawal of Russian troops from Lithuania and will work to promote a prompt and well-organized troop pullout from Latvia and Estonia". U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher told a news conference here today at the close of his visit to Latvia.

The U.S. official met on Wednesday [27 October] with the republic's leaders and the foreign ministers of the three Baltic states, as well as with representatives of the Russian community. Addressing the news conference, Christopher stressed that "the United States was ready for close and fruitful cooperation with the Baltic states". He reported that these republics were most likely to receive the promised 50 million dollars already before the end of this year. Financial assistance for the accommodation of Russian servicemen leaving the Baltics will be also rendered to Russia, of which U.S. President Bill Clinton informed Boris Yeltsin last week.

Speaking about the situation with ethnic minorities, the U.S. secretary of state noted that these problems should be solved so that "an atmosphere of harmony would be created in Latvia". He believes that dialogue between the two communities should be stepped up, in which the United States offers mediation. "We favor the idea of opening a CSCE mission in Latvia and think that the republic's government should find prompt solutions to questions concerning ethnic minorities", he told reporters.

Later in the day, Christopher left for the United States.

### Further on End of Visit

*LD2710202193 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1800 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] The United States of America still supports the earliest possible withdrawal of Russian troops from the Baltic states. However, the question of leaving specific military facilities on Latvian territory must be solved by Latvia and Russia. This was stated at a news conference by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher after a meeting with the foreign ministers of the Baltic states.

The main topic at the meeting was the withdrawal of the Russian army from the Baltics and security in general.

Latvian Foreign Minister Georgs Andrejevs reported that at present the possibility is being discussed of paying monetary compensation and of helping to find apartments at the new places of residence of Russian army officers leaving Latvia.

The meeting also discussed the expected arrival in Latvia of a mission of the CSCE on questions of the (?Russian army) withdrawal and human rights.

Speaking about the rights of the Russian-speaking inhabitants of Latvia, Christopher explained that the question of their status must be tackled as soon as possible by the Latvian Government. There must, however, be an understanding attitude toward the problems of the Russian speakers.

The U.S. secretary of state was also received today by Latvian President Guntis Ulmanis. Christopher also had a meeting with Prime Minister Valdis Birkavs. However, he began the day by meeting representatives of the Russian-speaking minority. During the meeting the representatives of this minority expressed the view that the United States might be the third party in solving the problems of the Russian speakers in Latvia. During the meeting Christopher announced that it is possible that a representative of the CSCE mission in Latvia might be an American. In his opinion this would promote solving of the problem.

Warren Christopher left Riga airport at 1500 to begin his journey home. He thus concluded his trip to East European states and the former Soviet republics.

### Belarus Urges Review of Stance on Czech Republic

*LD2610212693 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1800 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] Belarus Foreign Minister Petr Kravchenko has, in a telephone conversation, asked Latvian Foreign Minister Georgs Andrejevs to review the recommendation by the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Latvian Saeima to the government (?to reconsider the) admission of the Czech Republic into the UN Security Council with the status of a (?nonpermanent) member, and to recommend supporting the candidacy of Belarus.

Andrejevs reported this today to participants in a Foreign Affairs Commission session. In the event that Latvia voted for the admission of the Czech Republic, a majority of the Belarusian parliament might not ratify the Latvian-Belarusian bilateral treaty on borders, said Kravchenko.

The leader of the Saeima Foreign Affairs Commission, Aleksandrs Kirsteins, commented laconically on this incident: This issue will not be settled with the help of blackmail. In Kirsteins' words, Belarus [word indistinct] the issue for closer cooperation with Russia, and thereby in the UN Security Council too, there would be one more vote for the admission of Belarus. On the other hand, from the Czech Republic, Latvia could receive real military aid, said Kirsteins.

### Further Details

*WS2710154693 Tallinn BNS in English 2004 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] Riga, Oct 26, BNS—Belarus threatened to pull its support for a Latvian-Belarusian frontier agreement if Latvia refuses to support its bid for a temporary seat on the U.N. Security Council, said Latvian Foreign Minister Georgs Andrejevs.

Latvia has already pledged support to the Czech Republic, but Belarussian Foreign Minister Pyotr Kravchenko asked Latvia to review its decision, Andrejevs told the country's Foreign Relations Committee.

"These issues are not settled with the help of blackmail," said Committee Chairman Alexander Kirsteins.

Belarus is building closer relations with Russia, which means that Belarusian acceptance to the U.N. Security Council "will give one more vote for Russian interests," said Kirsteins.

Latvia may hope to receive practical military support from the Czech Republic, he added.

The U.N. Security Council has until Christmas to choose between Belarus and the Czech Republic. Temporary members participate in the Security Council on a rotating basis.

### Pavlovskis, Estonian Counterpart View Cooperation

*LD2810000093 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 2100 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] On 27 October, Estonian Defense Minister Juri Luik came to see Latvian Defense Minister Valdis Pavlovskis on an unofficial visit. Future cooperation between the Ministries of Defense and defense forces of both states was discussed, as were questions on the purchase of joint armament equipment, the apparatuses necessary for shore defense, and communications equipment. Both ministers agreed that the preparation of cooperation agreements among the Ministries of Defense of the Baltic states should be speeded up.

### Parliament Discusses Security Concept

*LD2710161093 Riga Radio Riga Network in Russian 2100 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] The Foreign Affairs Commission of the Saeima today discussed the concept of Latvia's security. The deputies on the commission considered the foreign and internal political conditions for its existence. In the opinion of Martins Virsis, parliamentary secretary of the Latvian Foreign Ministry, the pre-war neutrality of Latvia has not justified itself and must not be the leading aspect of the concept of the country's security. He noted that (?the entry) of Latvia into NATO was desirable. However, on this matter, the attitude of the North Atlantic Assembly is important; it is due to clarify itself in bilateral negotiations.

In turn, Aleksandr Kirsteins, leader of the Foreign Affairs Commission, recalled that the elaboration of the concept of state security is being delayed by unsolved problems in the area of strategic and tactical defense, the fight against crime, and social legislation.

## Lithuania

### New Social Security Minister Appointed

*LD2510194493 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1400 GMT 25 Oct 93*

[Text] Laurynas Mindaugas Stankevicius has been appointed to the post of social security minister.

He was born on 10 August 1935 in Aukstadvaris. He finished the Onuskis secondary school in 1953, and graduated from the Leningrad Institute of Finance and Economy in 1957. He held the post of senior economist and department head at the Lithuanian Ministry of Finance until 1969.

He was deputy representative at the Lithuanian mission in Moscow from 1969 until 1978. After his return to Lithuania, he was appointed to the post of deputy chairman of the State Labor Committee. Recently, he has been working on probation in the sphere of improvement of labor market structures and adult retraining in Germany, Denmark, and Cyprus.

He does not belong to any party. Stankevicius is married. His wife Irena is a judge at the Lithuanian High Court. His daughter Ruta is a student at the Lithuanian Academy of Art.

### Landsbergis: No Discussion of 'Secret' U.S.-Russian Deal

*WS2710094493 Tallinn BNS in English 1055 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] Vilnius, Oct 26, BNS—Rightist opposition leader Vytautas Landsbergis claims recent reports misquoted his comments made in a meeting with Latvian President Guntis Ulmanis.

Landsgergis reportedly accused the United States of signing a secret deal with Russia on army bases in the area, specifically Russia's radar base in Skundra, Latvia. Russia has repeatedly said it wants to retain control of the base after its troops' withdrawal.

At a press conference Monday [25 October], Landsbergis said he and Ulmanis discussed standard but not "secret agreements."

Commenting on the absence of information about the details of his meeting with Ulmanis, the opposition leader said he did not know whether the Latvian president was willing to announce the essence of their conversation.

"Information was announced without giving notice to me," he said. "Of course, if I had been present, I would have immediately made the information more precise." The report on the meeting was aired by the Latvian president's office.

A spokeswoman for the rightist opposition last week said that Landsbergis' statement in Riga meant that "Russia's special pressure, as regards the base in Skrunda, may be related to some agreement on parity of radar bases, reached earlier between big states."

### Economy Minister on Credit, Baltic Integration

*WS2210143093 Vilnius TIESA in Lithuanian 8 Oct 93 No 196 p 7*

[Interview with Economy Minister Julius Veselka by Gediminas Koncius; place and date not given]

[Text] Last week, Washington was host to the 49th annual World Bank and IMF congress. The congress was also attended by a Lithuanian delegation which included Economy Minister Julius Veselka, Finance Minister Eduardas Vilkelis, Lithuanian Bank Deputy Chairman Aivaras Karalius, and Stock Innovation Bank Chairman Arturas Balkevicius. Our correspondent Gediminas Koncius has talked to Economy Minister Julius Veselka about the results of this trip.

[Koncius] **It is customary to ask one about presents after a trip. Thus, have you come back with any new credits, ideas, or friends for Lithuania?**

[Veselka] We took $3 billion in investment projects to the congress. I presented them to World Bank President Lewis Preston. We have returned with a promise of extending another $60-million credit to our country for specific investments. No less important was our meeting with global financiers. We found out how they envision the integration of post-communist countries into the global financial system.

First of all, we must understand that we will not receive any serious financial assistance until we impose order at home. The World Bank and IMF experts are dissatisfied with the activities of our banks. The Central Bank does not yet have a statute based on international standards, which prevents it from effectively regulating commercial banks. The scandal around the removal of its leaders does not add to trust in the Central Bank.

The experts are concerned about the plans to privatize three state commercial banks. Our commercial banks are rated as unsound, because their capital stock is too small. They are unable to receive and distribute such finances in line with international norms which the World Bank and IMF could extend to us.

Another problem are those enterprises teetering on the verge of bankruptcy. Not daring to announce their insolvency, we are wasting money, material resources, and labor.

However, the most important issue is that neither we nor our neighbors have a strategic plan of economic cooperation.

World Bank and IMF leaders would like the Baltic states to integrate their economies. They see possibilities for us in cooperation not only with Latvia and Estonia, but also with Belarus, Ukraine, Poland, and Russia's Kaliningrad and St. Petersburg Oblasts. Through economic cooperation, we would create a common zone of political stability that would be very important to Lithuania. The further stable democracy and a market economy stretches out to the East, the safer Lithuania's independence will be and the richer its people's lives will become.

What is the sense of speaking about such broad cooperation, when the three Baltic states themselves have not yet managed to find effective forms of agreement. Let us take energy, for example. We could be very useful to one another here. We have a nuclear power station, a pumped-storage electric power station, and an oil refinery. Latvians have an oil terminal, large fuel reservoirs, and a powerful hydroelectric station, while Estonians own thermal power stations and extensive oil-shale resources. If we joined this into a common system, we could reap much gain. Therefore, let us not expect the World Bank and IMF to allot energy finances for each Baltic state individually. The same applies to the integration and expansion of transportation and other industries.

Thank God, all of us are beginning to realize this better. The world is interested in us as an integrated state system rather than separate countries. We are planning to invite Baltic economic and finance ministers, because our cooperation requires prompt expansion.

[Koncius] **While you were away, the problem of the ineffective utilization of credits has emerged in Lithuania again. Do we really let the majority of them leak out through chimneys while heating unwarmed houses?**

[Veselka] Leaving out hundreds of figures, I would say that the money earmarked for the restructuring of production, industry, and agriculture and the acquisition of new technologies is definitely insufficient. Its largest amount is spent on purchasing energy resources and stabilizing the national currency. All this makes us anxious about whether we will be able to repay these loans on time. I think that a rational option is the sale of economic objects for convertible currency. We have sold only three of them to foreigners, and they will invest $90 million in Lithuania. This is several times more than we have received in investments from other sources. Thus, I have always said and will continue to say: I pin the largest hopes on the attraction of private foreign capital to Lithuania.

We will not have to repay these investments, pay interest, or burden our children with debts. At the same time, we will receive some advanced experience in management, easier access to world markets, and so on.

[Koncius] **What prevents private investors from entering Lithuania's market?**

[Veselka] Aside from the reasons I have mentioned, there is one more aspect. Thus far, leaders of our enterprises have not yet learned to think strategically, draft business plans, and present them to rich partners in an attractive manner.

Second, we badly need to restore old roads and search for new ones to Russian markets. No one will build a larger enterprise here until one is certain about easy exports of one's production to the East. That is why I believe that one of the strategic issues is the negotiation of a free trade agreement with Russia, whereas an agreement on most favored nation status will be of little help to our economy.

**We must create a more favorable climate for the work of rich and experienced Western investors in our country, and cooperate closely with our newly independent neighbors. We should not listen to those who say repeatedly that the East is dangerous to Lithuania. Experience shows that the desire of our Eastern neighbors for democracy, freedom, and a better life is no less strong than ours.**

[Koncius] **Thank you for the interview.**

## LSDP Leader Discusses 'Lawlessness,' Property Rights

*WS2710142793 Tallinn BNS in English 1057 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Vilnius, Oct 27, BNS—The roots of the legal "nihilism" now plaguing Lithuania stretch back to the times of the Supreme Council (previous parliament), says Parliament Vice Chairman Aloyzas Sakalas, the leader of the Lithuanian Social Democratic Party [LSDP].

Sakalas claims the trend stems from officials and law institutions that disregarded "rally-type acts of terrorism" when "small bombs" exploded and MP's were jostled by the crowd. The remark appearently refers to last year's attacks on leftist MP's, who were then in the opposition. Sakalas notes that part of the weapons purchased with taxpayers' money disappeared without a trace and has not been found yet.

The LSDP leader also blamed the country's recent lawlessness on a number of unlawful decisions, especially the distribution of state funds by the prime minister, but not the government, as required by the law.

That trend is perpetuated now by "absolute property rights," which, he said, creates a strong economic basis for criminal gangs. Courts no longer confiscate property because of regulations in the Constitution that say "property is inviolable."

Commenting on a proposal to amend the Constitution and add the word "lawful" to "property is inviolable," Sakalas said the Social Democrats will wait for a decision by the Constitutional Court.

The LSDP leader said the court will consider an appeal filed by a district judge who seeks to clear up the exact meaning of the phrase. The Social Democrats will express their attitude toward the matter when the court passes its judgement, Sakalas said. "We think that no results can be achieved in the struggle against organized criminals without destroying their economic foundation."